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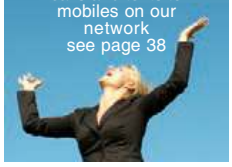

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Government looks to charge tolls on Algarve motorway

The Portuguese government has this week admitted that it could start charging tolls on four toll-free motorways by the end of the year, including the Algarve's Via do Infante or A22. (See Page 4)

Shoe industry "optimistic" after best quarter in a decade

Results from the first quarter of this year showed that Portugal's shoe industry has enjoyed the best results in ten years, with production, employment and orders all showing signs of a healthy recovery. (See Page 6)

Three-quarters of university students cheat

A ground-breaking study carried out in ten Portuguese universities has found that three out of four University students resort to cheating during exams by copying answers; it was also found that students in the Alentejo were most prone to copying. (See Page 9)

Families looking after their elderly for longer to balance bills

As a consequence of the global crisis more Portuguese families are opting to keep their elderly family members at home, as opposed to putting them in a care institutions, as not only do relatives have more time to care for them, households also benefit from incoming pensions. (See Page 17)

Portugal fails to impress

Portugal's inaugural match of the World Cup against Ivory Coast has dampened the country's spirits, not only for the goalless draw but also for the lack of creativity and desire demonstrated by the national squad. (See Page 64)

Weekend weather

Lisbon: The unstable weather of late will be a distant memory this coming week, as very little cloud is forecast with thermometers climbing back to the 30-degree mark. **Faro:** Summer arrives on Monday and the Algarve will duly comply by giving visitors and residents near perfect weather. **The North:** As in Lisbon, Oporto will only see summer weather and record top temperatures in their mid-20s.

Experts talk of window of opportunity as strengthening pound sees surge in interest in Portuguese property market

EXCHANGE RATE BOOST

Full story, see p. 2

THE PORTUGAL News

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Harry and William in Lesotho

EXCLUSIVE REPORT EXCLUSIVE REPORT EXCLUSIVE REPORT THE PORTUGAL News

Jill Kinsey, former Algarve resident and missionary to Lesotho, welcomed Princes Harry and William to Lesotho on Thursday. They travelled to Sentabale Children's Centre by helicopter and arrived on horseback in snow and minus temperatures. Here the caring Princes are seen greeting little Annacletta in a wheelchair and Tina on the left in blue who is deaf. On Harry´s knee is Bokang. For the full story, see next week's edition.

Exchange rate boost

Brendan de Beer

Since March, the pound has climbed by around ten percent in relation to the euro, sparking renewed interest in Portuguese real estate from the UK. Industry experts here are adamant that a stronger pound is crucial to regions such as the Algarve, whose economy is hugely dependant on tourism and real estate.

Financial experts have this week forecast that the pound should reach around €1.25 in the coming 12 months. Even with the current exchange rate standing at €1.20, real estate companies who spoke to **The Portugal News** this week said they have noted a sharp increase in interest from potential home buyers based in Britain.

Jyske Bank, whose business in the Iberian Peninsula focuses on offering advisory services to private banking clients and financing homes in the Algarve, say they are advising customers that the pound should reach the €1.25 mark in the coming year.

"It's not so much about the pound getting stronger than it is about the euro getting weaker", Jyske Bank CEO Christian Bjorlow told **The Portugal News** on Thursday.

"We have seen a lot of people change to the US Dollar, Swiss Frank and Danish Krone having lost confidence in the euro", added Mr Bjorlow. But he stressed his bank expected the single European currency to stabilise at €1.25 and not to suffer too many oscillations, at least not in the coming months.

Analysts quoted by the international property website homesoverseas.co.uk, agree with Jyske's forecasts and are saying sterling is set to reach a figure of between €1.25 to €1.30 between now and 2011, which will make investing in Eurozone states such as Portugal a much more viable option than it has been in recent years.

Market experts have lately insisted that topping €1.20 would reignite the appetite of investors looking to secure their money against a safe investment.

Miguel Ferreiro, Managing Director of real estate company Garvetur says the company's agencies have noted a strong increase in the number of inquiries in recent weeks, which he associates with the strengthening pound.

"Not only has there been a notable increase in inquiries from potential buyers in the UK, but we have also seen a rise in the number of cash buyers".

While this might seem odd at a time of crisis, Mr. Ferreiro explains that more and more people are looking to put their money in a safe investment, and property in the Algarve seems to be winning the race.

"While the Algarve never experienced huge property price increases, it similarly did not experience the falls in real estate values seen in Spain and some other EU states", added Mr. Ferreiro, believing confidence in the Portuguese market to be key to the future of renewed interest in the Algarve amongst foreign buyers, with properties up to €200,000 and those priced above €1 million attracting the most interest from potential investors.

Meanwhile, Oceânico General Manager Martin Date agreed that more interest was being shown, which could be attributed to the weaker euro, adding that quality resorts have "stood fairly strong" during the crisis.

"We have had more inquiries, and as they are directly to actual sales, we are optimistic, but these are early days yet", Mr Date told **The Portugal News** from Dublin, Ireland, where he said "severe economic difficulties" were being faced. However, his outlook for the UK market was much more optimistic for the coming 12 months, as "the British economy is bigger" allowing it to better withstand the adverse effects of the financial crisis.

Portuguese real estate developer Carlos Mendes of Grupo Duarte said that while he had noted a rise in inquiries from the UK in recent months, which he associated with the stronger pound, lamented the red-tape faced by foreign buyers in Portugal, adding that tighter regulations by banks and "closing costs" were hampering sales in the Algarve.

Last week, the president of the Algarve Tourism Board Nuno Aires admitted in an interview with **The Portugal News** that the pound was crucial to the financial well-being of the region and indeed the entire country.

"The behaviour of the pound is one of the most sensitive issues for us here when dealing with the UK. Not only in the purchase of real estate, but also when it comes to tourists deciding where to spend their holidays.

"The weaker pound resulted in a loss of confidence and a fall in the money spent by Britons in Portugal", he explained.

"Of all the negative factors that have faced the Algarve in recent years, the issue of the pound has been the most sensitive", Mr. Aires said, adding: "The pound's performance in recent weeks against the euro is positive."

As for Britons wanting to spend their pounds, which are now worth more than they have been for well over a year, the ERTA president has a message: "The Algarve continues to be an excellent place in which to invest and there are currently a number of excellent deals out there to be had. This is the right time to invest. There is a real opportunity."

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Government looks to charge tolls on Algarve motorway

Brendan de Beer

Motorists protest in 2004 against the introduction of toll gates. (Photo: Lusa / Luis Forra)

The Portuguese government has this week admitted that it could start charging tolls on four toll-free motorways by the end of the year, including the Algarve's Via do Infante or A22.

Motorways linking Lagos with Vila Real de Santo António, Chaves to Viseu, Aveiro to Vila Formoso and Torres Novas to Castelo Branco could all become tolled should the government succeed in pushing through plans it made public earlier this week.

The announcement was made by the State Secretary for Transport and Public Works, who has already overseen the introduction of tolls on three previously free motorways in the north of the country.

Paulo Campos, after being told that an injunction is being filed by seven town halls in the north against the charging of tolls, said he would consider charging tolls on all free motorways if he were forced to do so.

Mayors in the north of the country claim they are being discriminated against while motorists in the south enjoy the benefit of free motorways at the taxpayers' expense.

Condemnation of the charging of tolls on the A22 was swift.

The chairman of Algarve Municipalities, Macário Correio said there "can be no honest reason to introduce tolls on the Via do Infante motorway".

Last week, the president of the Algarve Tourism Board told **The Portugal News** he would lead the fight against tolled motorways in the Algarve.

"I am against tolls on the A22", he said, "The EN125 is not an alternative, and until it is, we cannot possibly have tolls on the A22.

"The cost will be enormous to the region, as traffic will be diverted on to the EN125 creating terrible congestion issues. What we cannot do is ask a tourist who has just spent two hours on a flight from northern Europe to spend another two hours in a bus to travel 40 kilometres."

But he leaves the door open to accepting tolls at a later date.

"The EN125 is being subjected to major renovation work, and once complete, we will have another look at the viability of the road as an alternative."

Until then the president says he will join in protest marches against the introduction of tolls on the A22.

"At the moment, we will not have tolls on the A22, at least that's what the government is telling us and we hope they can keep to that".

Back in 2004, the Algarve was only saved from a tolled motorway when the government was toppled and the president called early elections.

Shortly before the government fell, large numbers of Algarveans had gathered on the 125 national road to protest against the proposed introduction of tolls on the region's main A22 motorway.

The protest consisted of as many cars as possible flooding the EN125 in a bid to show central government that the road was not a suitable alternative to the A22.

The protest resulted in motorists taking around twice as long to complete a journey on a normal day.

The major site of the congestion was between Boliqueime and Albufeira, with traffic officers making no secret of their thoughts on the demonstration as several protesting motorists were fined for minor offenses.

Truck drivers were singled out by police, with trucks forming queues at Penina in Portimão as they waited their turn for stringent inspection of their documents and the roadworthiness of their vehicles.

Even the Mayor of Portimão, Manuel da Luz failed to escape the attention of traffic police. The Mayor was stopped in his official vehicle in Albufeira along the EN125 for having his emergency lights switched on. A Portimão councillor, travelling in the backseat, was fined for not wearing his safety belt.

Despite the apparent success of the protest back then, and growing political opposition within the ruling-party's ranks, the government made no indication of going back on its decision to toll motorists when using the A22 – it was only when a new cabinet was formed that the use of the word 'toll' was deemed unpopular.

Meanwhile, the introduction of tolls on three of the country's seven free motorways coincides with the introduction of microchips in vehicles wanting to travel on these roads.

Despite serious privacy concerns, the government has said its main priority is to have the microchip operational as soon as possible in order to facilitate the charging of tolls on previously toll-free motorways in northern Portugal, and possibly the A22 motorway in the Algarve.

All new motorways will also use this technology.

"Cars using these motorways will need to be fitted with the device", said Transport State Secretary, Paulo Campos.

He explained during a recent visit to the north of the country earlier in the week that the chip is "technologically complex and the system will have to be tested to ensure it works hitch-free, especially when it comes to payments".

But the finer operational details remain a mystery.

"All will be explained in due course in order to allow Portuguese to calmly adapt to the system", said Mr. Campos.

However, it is believed that motorists can make toll payments by either depositing a pre-paid amount into their vehicle account at a pay point or via an ATM, while payments invoiced at a later date will be charged a premium due to administrative costs.

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Portugal's shoe industry "optimistic" after best quarter in a decade

Models parade showing off various shoe creations at the 25th Portugal Fashion show in Oporto last October. (Photo: Lusa / João Abreu Miranda)

Results from the first quarter of this year showed that Portugal's shoe industry has enjoyed the best results in ten years, with production, employment and orders all showing signs of a healthy recovery.

However, the "radical rise" in the prices of raw materials and planned austerity measures are worrying those in the industry.

According to quarterly analyses from Portuguese Footwear Association APICCAPS, almost half of the sector's businesses (49 percent) claimed that production has stabilised and 28 percent claimed it had risen.

APICCAPS carried out surveys on around 10 percent of the approximate 1,300 companies that presently make up Portugal's footwear industry.

Furthermore, production is currently "at normal levels" for this time of year, for around two thirds of the companies.

This improvement has also had positive reflections on employment, with a subtle rise in the number of people working in the industry having been detected.

"Even though four in five companies affirm that their number of employees has stayed the same, those who say it has risen are more than those who say the number has diminished", explained APICCAPS.

Regarding the state of negotiations, more companies say that business is "good" than those who perceive business to be "bad".

In fact the ratio of those who have a positive opinion on the health of business in comparison to those who think it is poor is the highest it has been since 2001.

Three out of four companies think business is "sufficient".

Forty-three percent of businesses say that the number of orders has stabilised; 27 percent claim they have increased, while 29 percent believe orders have diminished. Companies who include a significant number of their own designs in collections appear to be those faring the best.

But despite the apparent overall pick-up in the industry, APICCAPS has not hidden its "concern" regarding stock supplies and the "radical rise" in the prices of raw materials, which have increased by more than 30 percent.

This is of particular concern to the industry as prices of raw materials represent "more than half of the overall cost of footwear" production.

"We are halfway through producing collections and at this point it is very hard to renegotiate prices that have already been agreed with clients", a source from the Association told Lusa News Agency.

Another cause for concern is the set of austerity measures that were recently announced by various European governments.

"We export 95 percent of production and these measures will certainly imply a drop in consumption", the Association anticipated.

Even so, footwear companies are overall "very optimistic" regarding the second quarter of 2010. For the first time in two years more companies predict a rise in production than those who think production will drop.

One such company is Ferreira Avelar & Irmão, which was founded in 1947 and in 2009 registered more than €5 million in revenue and exported 97 percent of its production.

Currently managed by the third generation of the Avalar family, who founded the company, 40 percent of Ferreira Avelar & Irmão's production is from their own designs. Last year the company produced some 95,000 pairs of shoes, with clients including Nicolas Sarkozy, Cristiano Ronaldo, Figo, Hugh Jackman and Michael Bublé. Fifteen percent of its own collection is sold under the company's name; 25 percent of production is sold under a different name.

Overall, 40 percent of production is sent to France; 30 percent is sold to Holland and 10 percent to Germany.

The remaining production is distributed amongst the USA, Australia, China, Japan, the UK, Sweden, Spain and Portugal, where Ferreira Avelar & Irmão's shoes are only available in high-range Sacoor, Dielmar and Agostini stores.

President describes crisis as 'unsustainable'; PM counters with 'difficult'

Portuguese President Cavaco Silva has described Portugal's financial and economic predicament as "unsustainable", appealing for unity in search of solutions.

In a speech on 'Portugal Day' last Thursday, the president said the crisis required the sidelining of "partisan and ideological quarrels" and the creation of a "contract of national cohesion" among all forces and sectors of society.

"Ahead of us we have much work, great tasks and inevitable sacrifices", Cavaco Silva said in a speech in the Algarve capital Faro, recalling that the eight-century-old nation had not been built through "discouragement".

"We must find within ourselves the strength to overcome", challenged the conservative head of state.

Socialist Prime Minister José Sócrates, speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the June 10 national day celebrations, disagreed with the president, saying the country faced a "difficult situation", like "all other European countries", rather than an "unsustainable" predicament.

Prime Minister Sócrates said Cavaco Silva's call for unity and consensus had been primarily directed at workers and employers at a time of deep belt-tightening.

He said austerity measures negotiated with the main opposition Social Democrats to reduce Lisbon's swollen deficit quickly were "just" and in line with policies adopted in other EU nations.

TPN/Lusa

President Cavaco Silva during the ceremonial raising of the flag during the Day of Portugal celebrations in Faro the previous day on June 9th. (Photo: Lusa / Luis Forra)

Foreign Minister denies row with PM over budget limits

Portuguese Foreign Minister Luís Amado has claimed there is no friction between him and Prime Minister José Sócrates over the issue of imposing constitutional limits to government spending.

Minister Amado had supported, earlier in the month, Germany's plan to impose constitutional limits on its public budget deficit.

José Sócrates publicly stated, in June 4 comments in the nation's parliament, that he does not agree with budget limits and that his government has no plans to introduce them: "The answer to that is no. I do not favour [deficit restrictions]."

Portuguese daily newspaper "i" wrote last week that Minister Amado might "abandon the government". The report was denied by government sources.

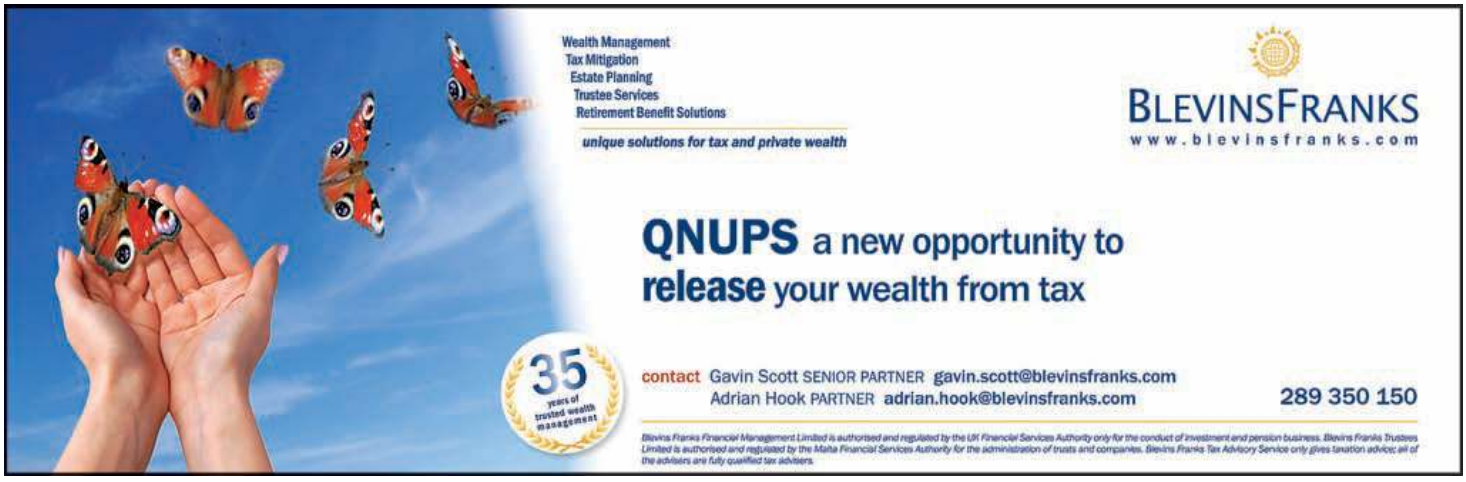
"I only wanted to open a debate", Mr. Amado said last Friday. "Germany chose to reinforce its internal budgetary discipline mechanism (…) and I believe all states [of the EU] will eventually have to take similar measures, not necessarily copying the German constitutional amendment."

Amado added, however, that "in no way" did he feel that his authority was questioned by Mr. Sócrates' statements.

"We have different views on a lot of issues. Some differences here and there mean nothing more than that, not everyone thinks alike", Mr. Amado added.

"The prime minister doesn't agree with me on that issue, but that is the end of that."

TPN/Lusa



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Het beursklimaat was de afgelopen jaren erg turbulent. Waar vele beurzen en aandelen de helft van hun waarde verloren, bleef Alex Vermogensbeheer, door op tijd in- en uit te stappen, goed overeind. Dit resulteert in rendementen waar we trots op zijn.

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More Europeans are donating their blood says EU study

Visitors at the International Algarve Fair in Lagoa queue to donate blood on Saturday June 5th. (Photo: Associação de Dadores de Sangue do Barlavento do Algarve)

A poll published ahead of the 2010 World Blood Donor Day that was held on Monday shows that 37 percent of Europeans have given blood. This figure, however, is much lower for Portugal, where it currently stands at only 22 percent.

The Eurobarometer survey indicates a six percent increase since the last survey was conducted in 2002 in EU-15. The countries revealed to have the highest levels of blood donation are Austria (66 percent), France (52 percent), Greece (51 percent) and the Republic of Cyprus (51 percent).

Despite lagging behind their European counterparts in donating blood, 61 percent of Portuguese believed blood transfusions are now safer than they were a decade ago as opposed to 57 percent of Europeans.

Over half of Europeans are willing to donate organs according to a Eurobarometer survey on organ donation also published late last week.

Established in 2005, World Blood Donor Day is celebrated on 14th June to raise global awareness about the need for safe blood and regular voluntary blood donation.

It is jointly coordinated by the World Health Organisation (WHO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) and the International Federation of Blood Donor Organisations (IFODS).

Portugal celebrates 25th anniversary of EU accession

Senior EU leaders took part in ceremonies in Lisbon on Friday, marking the 25th anniversary of Portugal's accession to the European bloc.

European Commission Chairman José Manuel Durão Barroso, a former Portuguese prime minister, and European Parliament Speaker Jersy Buzek attended a seminar celebrating the event ahead of the formal ceremonies that were staged on Saturday.

The highlight event at Jerónimos Monastery beside the Tagus River on Saturday honoured ex-President Mário Soares and Spain's Felipe González, who, as prime ministers, led the former Iberian dictatorships into the European Economic Community, the precursor to the EU, in back-to-back actions on June 12, 1985.

Portuguese President Cavaco Silva and Prime Minister José Sócrates also attended the Jeronímos ceremonies, along with Spanish Prime Minister José Luis Zapatero.

Following the programme in Lisbon, the leaders travelled to Madrid to mark the twin anniversary of Spain's accession.

TPN/Lusa

EU bathing water quality remains high

The annual bathing water report presented by the European Commission and the European Environment Agency shows that 96 percent of coastal bathing areas and 90 percent of bathing sites in rivers and lakes complied with minimum standards in 2009.

The report also describes where to obtain detailed and up-to-date information on bathing sites. Environment Commissioner Janez Potocnik said, "Over the last thirty years, EU and national legislation has significantly improved the quality of Europe's bathing waters but our work does not end there. Despite our decade-long track record of high quality, we need to keep up the effort constantly to both improve and maintain what we have achieved."

Professor Jacqueline McGlade, Executive Director of the European Environment Agency, added, "Further improvement to Europe's bathing water quality requires citizen involvement. This means, first and foremost, finding out and understanding the current state of our environment and then demanding cleaner water from relevant authorities. Our web-based tools provide citizens easy access to environmental information as well as a platform to voice their observations."

Efforts to improve the quality of bathing waters should be seen in the context of Europe's efforts to achieve a good ecological and environmental status in accordance with the EU Water and Marine Framework Directives.

Three out of four University students confess to copying

A ground-breaking study carried out in ten Portuguese universities has found that three out of four University students resort to cheating during exams by copying answers; it was also found that students in the Alentejo were most prone to copying.

The study was carried out in ten public universities, amongst students of Economy and Business Management courses.

Published last month in the Journal of Academic Ethics, based on answers from 2,675 students, it transpired that copying is increasingly common as end-of-year exams approach.

"It has been noted that dishonest behaviour increases towards the end of courses. I think this is the result of added pressure to attain good grades and enter the competitive work market", Aurora Castro Teixeira, one of the study's authors, told Lusa News Agency.

But, she said, there is a "big difference" between girls and boys.

"Twenty percent more male students admitted to copying than female students".

Another of the study's revelations showed that there is "significant heterogeneity in terms of regions".

"Students resident in the Alentejo emerged with a much higher tendency to copy", Aurora Teixeira explained, stressing that eight out of ten students from the Alentejo admitted to copying.

At the opposite end of the scale, students in the Azores and Madeira are amongst those who abide by the rules most steadfastly.

More than half of Azorean students claim to never have copied or cheated in exams, followed by 41.7 percent of students in Madeira.

On mainland Portugal, copying was more rife amongst students from the interior of the country than those from along the coastline.

Overall, around 60 percent of Portugal's students are prone to copying in exams, with the large majority of cheating students believing that if they are caught the consequences will not be significant. Therefore, 51.4 percent of participants in the study considered copying to be "not serious" and "not very relevant".

Furthermore, 90 percent of participants in the study admitted to having copied at some point in high school.

As well as more traditional forms of copying, now there are new forms of cheating which include sophisticated techniques being shared over the Internet.

One such technique used in Portugal involves reproducing soft-drink bottle labels and replacing the standard small-print with answers and handy content for exams.

Students from the Minho and Católica Universities of Braga and Guimarães participating in the traditional 'Cortejo do Enterro da Gata' academic festivities, in Braga's Praça da Republica on May 12th, 2010. (Photo: Lusa / Hugo Delgado)

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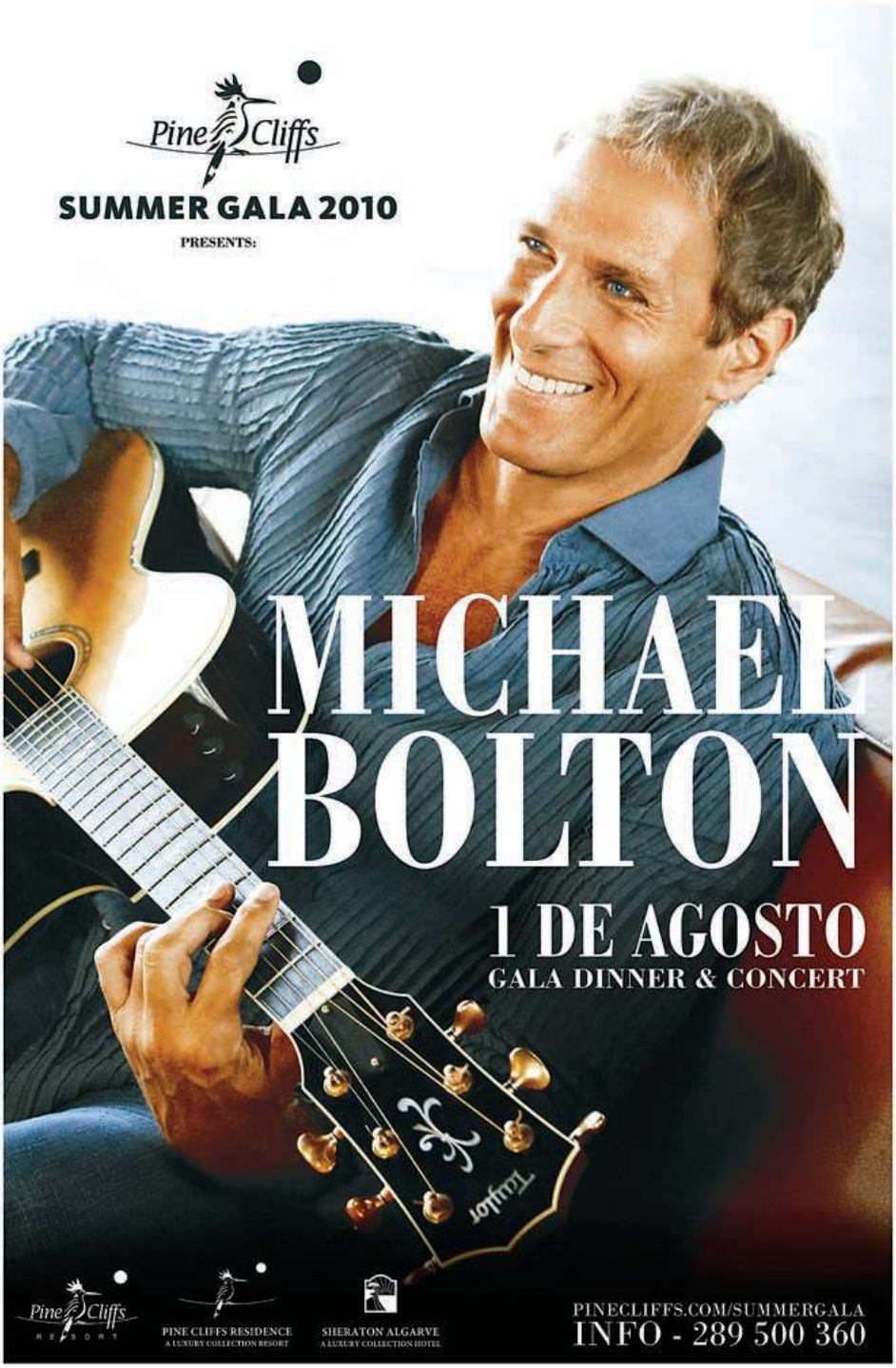
Michael Bolton to Perform at the Pine Cliffs Resort Summer Gala

Joining the list of leading international artists to have already headlined at the Pine Cliffs Summer Gala, Michael Bolton brings a slice of Grammy-winning class to the Algarve on August 1st, and one of the most recognisable voices of the 80s and 90s.



The Pine Cliffs Summer Gala has earned a reputation as the pinnacle of the Algarve's varied summer entertainment calendar, with the event able to attract the cream of the world's music artists. Past editions have welcomed the likes of Lionel Richie, George Benson, Dionne Warwick, Gloria Gaynor, Al Jarreau, Bryan Ferry and Roberta Flack, and last year Rick Astley.

Enjoying its now famous venue, the Summer Gala will again be held in the garden setting, by the pool of the Pine Cliffs Residence. Lucky guests can experience a memorable al fresco dinner, before settling down to a memorable concert performance from singer/songwriter Michael Bolton.

Michael Bolton has enjoyed a long and varied career littered with Grammy Awards, 53 million record sales, sold-out concerts and memorable collaborations. From his emergence in the late 80s as the new voice of soul, reinterpreting classics by legends such as Ray Charles, Percy Sledge and Otis Redding, or releasing an album of arias in the late 90s, to recent collaborations with such unlikely names as Kanye West, Lady Gaga and Ne-Yo, Mr Bolton remains as determined as ever to take risks and wow the public.

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€450 per person

Gold tickets includes a refined welcome cocktail, preferred seating closer to the stage, a magnificent "al fresco" buffet dinner at the Resort's garden area, followed by Michael Bolton live concert and a surprise gift! Also includes an invitation to the Aldar's After Party.

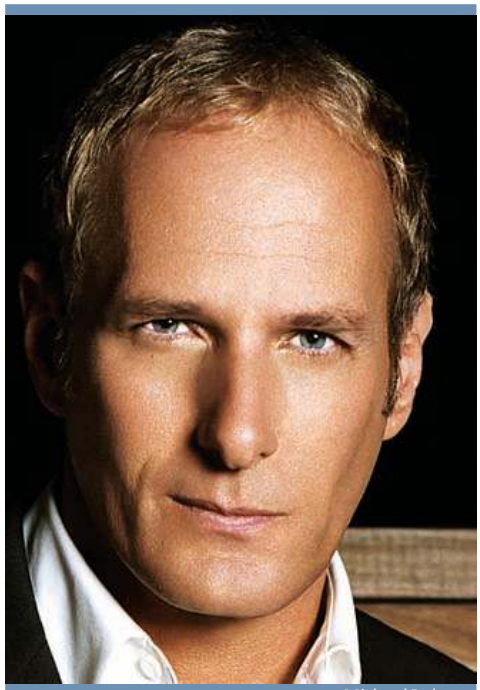
PLATINUM

€600 per person

Platinum tickets includes a refined welcome cocktail, a superb 4 course dinner with premium beverages, front row seating, followed by Michael Bolton live concert and a surprise gift! Also includes an invitation to the Aldar's After Party.

(The above prices include drinks during dinner.50% discount for children between 8 and 12 years old.)

Tickets for the Pine Cliffs Summer Gala 2010 on AUGUST 01 can be reserved/purchased directly at the Sheraton Algarve Hotel on +351.289.500360 or visit www.pinecliffs.com/summergala.



Michael Bolton

Abortion laws slash sales of 'Morning After' pill

Sales of the morning after pill in Portugal have plummeted, according to national pharmacies, which between July 2009 and May 2010 ordered 52,355 fewer boxes of the pill, 23.9 percent less, than during the same period of the previous year.

The consumption of the emergency contraception pill has been on a gradual decline since 2007, but it has dropped dramatically in the past 12 months.

From 2007 to 2008 sales dropped by 8.5 percent, which means the demand for emergency contraception has fallen since new abortion laws were introduced in July 2007.

The so-called 'morning after' pill has been on sale in Portugal for 10 years. During its first year on the shelves some 50,000 boxes were purchased.

And consumption steadily rose to peak at 250,000 units a year, in 2006.

Following the approval of the voluntary pregnancy termination (IVG) law, which was implemented on July 15th, 2007, a reversal of the trend in consumption of emergency contraception began to show. This turn-around picked up pace until 2008, when the first documented drop in sales was registered.

Miguel Oliveira e Silva, obstetrician and professor of ethics, describes the gradual decline in morning after pill sales as "Significant, and means that people are enjoying a more responsible sex-life".

Women pray during a vigil staged by Roman Catholic citizens against abortion in Lisbon in 2008. (Photo: Lusa / António Cotrim)

"It is a positive drop", he continued, adding "unless the reduction of morning after pill consumption translates into a rise in the number of abortions carried out up until ten weeks of gestation; in that case the situation has worsened.

"We need more time to evaluate and study [the situation]", he concluded.

In 2009 19,572 voluntary abortions were carried out, 16.2 percent more than in 2008 (when 16,839 terminations were carried out), a year that had also registered a rise in relation to the second quarter of 2007, after the introduction of the new law.

Elisabete Souto, who is responsible for the national Family Planning Association's (APF) 'Options' helpline, believes the increase in the number of IVG's is "normal", and happens "in all countries where voluntary abortions are legalised".

A survey carried out by the APF, based on phone calls received in 2008, revealed that 67 percent of the women who had fallen pregnant and sought the association's help had used contraception.

Paternity tests to be sold in supermarkets?

Paternity tests that have been banned by Portugal's medicine regulating authority Infarmed from being sold in pharmacies could soon be found on sale in supermarkets and hypermarkets, according to the product's manufacturers.

As the only paternity test to be sold in pharmacies the 'UNODNA Trust' was, last Tuesday, banned from sale by Infarmed after it ruled "the paternity tests are not considered a medical device for in vitro diagnoses as they are not meant for a medical purpose".

The 'UNODNA Trust' compares male and infant DNA by using two sample gathering kits, which are then sent to a laboratory for analysis.

The final results are sent to the individual via an IT system, after the client installs a computer programme included with the test.

Prior to its banning, Mário Mendes, who is responsible for UNODNA's commercialisation in Portugal, said sales were "going well" and that the objective was to make the test available in at least 1,800 pharmacies.

However, following Infarmed's decision last week, Mr. Mendes publicly announced that he "agreed" with the ruling and granted that the test "is not a medical device".

He nevertheless lamented the authority's justification that the tests should only be available from "reputable establishment where serious people work".

"We tried to create a different product, by an existing national company, and sell it in trustworthy places", Mr. Mendes argued.

"We invested in safety and transparency and we tried to avoid risky means of distribution, like the Internet, but it seems none of that is of interest to Infarmed", he said.

He confirmed that UNODNA would continue to be sold and that various alternatives were being analysed, such as supermarkets and hypermarkets.

"We are studying other channels of distribution, like the Internet, which we would preferably like to avoid as it runs into obscure terrain. But Infarmed is pushing us towards it", Mr. Mendes added.

Each UNODNA test costs around €250 and "has no judicial validity".

Families survive crisis by cutting back on basics instead of luxuries

Shoppers in Pingo Doce supermarket in Fonte Nova (Photo: Lusa / André Kosters)

Food stuffs and medicines are the first items to be dashed from families shopping lists in an attempt to make savings wherever possible.

In contradiction, superfluous items like mobile phones and cable TV are still priorities to families trying to maintain a certain image despite the ongoing belt-tightening.

During the first five months of this year Portugal's consumer rights watchdog Deco was contacted by 5,500 families living below the breadline, who said the first cuts in the household budget were in supermarket and pharmacy products.

"Regarding foodstuffs, the first savings were made by swapping well-known brands for own-brands, and families stopped purchasing more expensive products" said Natália Nunes, who is responsible for Deco's support service for over-indebted families.

Confronted with less money, families have also cut back on certain medicines, and in some cases have even refrained from buying necessary medicines prescribed by the doctor.

"Some people don't even substitute their medication. They just pure and simply stop buying them", Natália Nunes stressed.

However, mobile phone bills and other multimedia service expenditures are met, seemingly at any cost.

"Apparently, cutting back on food and medicine is easier for families trying to maintain a certain lifestyle", Natalia Nunes explained, adding that there is also "great resistance" to selling family vehicles.

Families resorting to Deco's help generally consist of a couple plus one child, with an average income of €1,500 per month.

Natalia Nunes advises any family facing financial struggles to try and improve their money management, taking a severe approach to spending less, by comparing and renegotiating fees with telecommunications operators and service providers.

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Hungary's new government "good for Portuguese companies"

Hungary's new economic policies will be beneficial for Portuguese companies, Portuguese trade representative in Budapest, Joaquim Pimpão told Lusa News Agency.

Measures announced by the new Hungarian government, winners of the April general election,the Fidesz centre-right party, will "increase internal demand and generate jobs", and "open new business opportunities for Portuguese companies", said Pimpão, a delegate for AICEP, Portugal's foreign investment agency.

Pimpão added that AICEP has a good working relationship with the new ruling party: "When AICEP realised that a political shift was forthcoming, we had to consider who the future government players would be", and introduce them to "economical areas where Portugal is a world leader, such as e-government", Pimpão said. *TPN/Lusa*

Sino-Lusophone business forum set for Lisbon next week

About 150 business leaders from mainland China and Macao will attend the annual Sino-Lusophone business forum in Lisbon next week, organizers in Macao stated earlier in the week.

The Chinese delegation will discuss trade and investment opportunities for two days, June 23-24, with counterparts from seven of the eight members of the Lisbon-headquartered Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP).

Beijing named Macao as the hub for its business ties with the CPLP states in 2003.

The preceding Sino-Lusophone business forum was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, last year.

TPN/Lusa

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Medical emergency helicopters and ambulances grounded due to crisis

Portugal's national medical emergency response service (INEM) has been hit by expense-control contingency plans drawn up because of the continuing financial crisis whereby its helicopter and ambulance services will be reduced.

This week INEM revealed that its helicopters based in Lisbon and Oporto would be grounded as part of the cost-cutting measure, with effect from July.

De-activating other forms of rescue as well as reducing the amount of overtime worked to zero hours are two more contingency measures being implemented.

In total ten contingency measures will take effect over the next few weeks.

INEM was officially hit by the crisis this week, when it announced the emergency plan.

In order to maintain ambulances and emergency response vehicles functioning the solution was to pay-off 175,000 hours of overtime, which cost more than two and a half million euros.

In turn, regional INEM delegations have started to indentify other expenditures that they can slash.

In Northern Portugal three basic life-support ambulances (a traditional ambulance with a crew of two technicians) from Miranda do Douro, Moncorvo and Celorico, are expected to be taken out of service, along with three immediate life-support ambulances (whose crew includes a nurse) from Alijó, Cabeceiras and Montalegre.

In Lisbon two basic life-support ambulances are to be scratched, along with two of the of the existing four immediate life-support vehicles in the Alentejo.

More ambulance services will cease in Oleiros, with night services being stopped in Tábua, Figueiró dos Vinhos, Sabugal and Vouzela.

The Mortáguas ambulance is expected to carry out a 24-hour service, with ambulances being dispatched for day shifts in Viseu and Figueira da Foz.

In the Algarve, Faro's 'CODU' ((Emergency Patient Coordination Centre) grounded the city's emergency and resuscitation vehicle, while two more ambulances are expected to cease services.

However, none of these measures have, as yet, been officially confirmed or made definitive.

New parking regulations were introduced in April at the Portuguese Oncology Institute in Lisbon obliging ambulances to pay after being stationary for over half an hour. (Photo: Lusa / Manuel de Almeida)

Unemployment in Portugal hits new high

National unemployment has hit a record high after peaking at 10.8 percent in April, with Portugal now being the country with the fourth highest rate of joblessness within the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD).

From March to April this year the percentage of people without a job in this country rose by 0.2 points, climbing from 10.6 to 10.8 percent in one month, setting a new 20-year record and overtaking Hungary, which was previously in fourth place.

Of the countries comprising the OECD, Spain retains the highest level of unemployment, at 19.7 percent, followed by Slovakia, at 14.4 percent, and Ireland, 13.3 percent.

Worldwide, the lowest rates of unemployment are in South Korea (3.7%) and Holland (4.1%).

Within the OECD, the overall average for unemployment remained stable at 8.7 percent, with the number of jobless individuals climbing by 3.3 million to a total of 46.5 million citizens.

Within the Euro Zone, joblessness increased from 10 percent to 10.1 percent.

Portugal at highest risk of GDP dropping during World Cup games

According to a productivity study Portugal could potentially lose €26.3 per worker during its first three World Cup 2010 games, meaning a swift drop in its overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

This is the highest loss of financial productivity of all of the countries participating in the World Cup and therefore presents the highest risk of GDP loss.

This figure is not higher because the Portuguese rank, just midway on a classification table based on wealth created per hour of work, the main variable used to measure productivity.

Holland, Denmark and Germany, countries that boast double Portugal's hourly productivity, follow on the table of biggest potential losses per capita.

2011 'Year in China' programme focused on business goals

Next year's planned "Portugal's Year in China" programme will centre primarily on "economic objectives", Lisbon's new ambassador to Beijing said.

"The very scarce (financial) means we have should be used towards objectives of an economic nature", rather than the more ambitious initial plans focused on history, art and culture, Ambassador José Tadeu Soares told Lusa News Agency.

The 2011 promotion in China would "essentially involve companies", he added.

Mr. Soares, 60, arrived in Beijing less than one month ago and is expected to present his diplomatic credentials to President Hu Jintao in early July. *TPN/Lusa*

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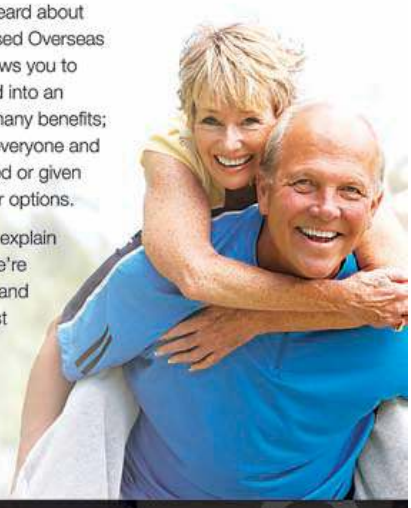

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THE PORTUGAL News Established 1977

Fortaleza da Luz voted 'Best Restaurant of the Year'

The Fortaleza restaurant in Praia da Luz was recently voted 'Best Restaurant of the Year' by the discerning ladies' Lunch Bunch Club at their annual committee meeting.

The Lunch Bunch is a ladies' club with discerning tastes which every month reviews a number of restaurants. Each month one restaurant is selected and the members have a lunch there, scrutinising their meal according to three criteria: food, setting and the service.

In December last year the ladies visited the historic Fortaleza restaurant in Luz, which is fantastically situated in a 17th century fortress perched on the rocks above the beach. There, their appetites were satisfied by Chef Manuel's "amazing" culinary skills.

A Champagne reception was followed by a traditional three-course Christmas lunch. Traditional Christmas pudding and festive carol singing around the piano left everyone with a glowing smile and happy heart.

"It was a fantastic day out for the ladies and we were surprised at the Chef's creativity in interpreting a traditional English Christmas lunch", a Lunch Bunch spokesperson said, adding "the Fortaleza was the clear winner.

Forteleza pipped others to the post as "The food was excellent, along with the amazing medieval interior with its high vaulted ceilings, huge baronial fire place and candle lit ambiance, together with the friendliness of the staff was what gave it the winning vote."

The restaurant has now been confirmed by the Lunch Bunch as Luz's premier eatery. It is immensely popular throughout the summer for lunches and dinners. There is an outside shaded terrace set in beautiful, landscaped gardens opposite the old church and overlooking a hidden beach.

Every Sunday afternoon there is a Jazz lunch outside with unlimited selection from the BBQ, fish, meat, salad bar and dessert table. This would undoubtedly be the perfect location for a fairy tale wedding….

For further information on the restaurant please contact Luke on 912 511 196 or email: info@fortalezadaluz.com.

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The truth behind the CE marking

The "CE marking" is often seen on some products bought in the European Union, but what does it really mean? Under the slogan "CE marking makes Europe's market yours!", the European Commission is carrying out an information campaign on the CE marking.

The marking signals that a product is in compliance with all relevant EU legislation, making it eligible to be marketed and sold throughout the EU, the European Commission said in a statement released this week.

By affixing the CE marking on a product, a manufacturer is declaring, under his sole responsibility, conformity with all relevant legal requirements, in particular those which ensure health, safety, and environmental protection.

Legal and economic repercussions of non-conformity abuse are so great that it will deter the vast majority of legitimate businesses from not respecting these laws. This campaign is directed primarily at economic operators, to raise their awareness and understanding of the CE marking.

Industry and Entrepreneurship Commissioner, Vice-President Antonio Tajani said: "We need to boost the visibility of and public trust in the CE marking. Our campaign aims to promote a better understanding of the meaning behind the marking and the purpose of its use.

"However, this confidence is also dependent on the reliability of the system on which the CE mark is based. Thus it will boost consumer's confidence and benefit producers and distributors", the Commissioner added.

Not all products sold in the EU need to bear the CE marking. It applies to approximately 23 different product categories, such as toys, electrical products, machinery, personal protective equipment and lifts.

A CE marking does not indicate that a product was made in the EEA, but merely states that the product is assessed before it is placed on the market and therefore satisfies the legislative requirements (e.g. a harmonised safety level). It means that the manufacturer has verified that the product complies with all relevant essential requirements (e.g. health and safety requirements) of the applicable directive(s) or has had it examined by a suitable conformity assessment body.

For products manufactured in the EU, it is the manufacturer's responsibility to carry out the conformity assessment, to set up the technical file, to issue the EC declaration of conformity and to affix the CE marking on a product. Distributors must verify the presence of both the CE marking and the necessary supporting documentation. For products imported from a third country, the importer has to verify that the manufacturer outside the EU has undertaken the necessary steps and that the documentation is available upon request.

EU industry and entrepreneurship commissioner, Italian Antonio Tajani gives a news conference on European strategy on clean and energy efficient vehicles at the European commission headquartes in Brussels on April 28th. The European strategy for encouraging the development and eventual widespread use of clean and energy efficient vehicles aims to help the European car industry to strengthen its leading role globally, basing its production on clean and energy-efficient technologies. (Photo: EPA/Olivier Hoslett)

Portugal open to prior EU assessment of its budget

Portugal backs moves for prior EU evaluation of national budgets by Brussels so long as the "red line" of parliamentary pre-eminence is not crossed, a senior Lisbon official said.

State Secretary for European Affairs Pedro Lourtie told Lusa News Agency that Lisbon was "favourable to the strengthening of (EU) governance mechanisms at the level of economic coordination and coordination of economic policies".

Mr. Lourtie cautioned, however, that initiatives in this direction must respect the "budget assessment competence of [national] parliaments", which he described as "a red line" that could not be violated.

EU finance ministers reached agreement in principle on the idea of member states presenting their budget guidelines to Brussels for prior evaluation each spring during the ECOFIN meeting last Monday and Tuesday in Luxembourg, according to European Council President Herman Van Rompuy.

TPN/Lusa

Vivo bid is "take it or leave it", Spain's Telefónica says

Telefónica's bid for Portugal Telecom's share in Brazil's Vivo mobile phone operator is a "take or leave it" offer, sources within the Spanish company told Lusa News Agency.

Telefónica offered €6.5 billion for PT's Vivo shares, and also offered to sell its 10 percent stake in PT to facilitate the deal. PT and Telefónica each have 50 percent of Brasilcel, a holding company that owns 60 percent of Vivo.

PT's board judged the offer to be inadequate given Vivo's "strategic value", and set a June 30 date for a shareholder assembly, in which a decision will be made on Telefónica's offer.

"We believe the assembly will say 'yes' to the bid", the Telefónica source told Lusa. "We'll have to wait and see."

Telefónica (itself a PT shareholder) ratcheted up the pressure on PT on Tuesday by proposing the Portuguese company pay a 1 euro per share special dividend if the Vivo bid goes through.

TPN/Lusa

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Portugal calls for 'increased pressure' in favour of Palestinian state

Portuguese Foreign Minister Luís Amado has called on the international community to "increase pressure" on all sides of the Middle East conflict to encourage moves for the creation of a Palestinian state.

Supporters of banned Pakistan-based charity Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) shout slogans during a rally in Lahore, Pakistan on June 13th to express solidarity with the Palestinian people. (Photo: EPA/Rahat Dar)

Minister Amado, speaking to reporters before a meeting of EU counterparts in Luxembourg, said an end to the Israeli blockade of Gaza, which he described as "unsustainable" in humanitarian and political terms, could only be envisaged within the framework of a future Palestinian state.

"A solution for Gaza is part of the larger problem of the creation and consolidation of a Palestinian state", he said.

The Gaza blockade topped the agenda of the EU diplomatic meeting, an issue Lisbon called for the inclusion of after the deadly Israeli raid against a pro-Palestinian humanitarian convoy at sea on May 31.

"We believe that in the context of security guarantees for Israel it's possible to advance towards an end to the blockade", Mr Amado said. "Obviously, this option is only possible if the whole problem of the edification of a Palestinian state is developed in parallel".

The international community, "particularly the EU, should increase pressure on all sides for the existence of a [Palestinian state] plan as quickly as possible", Amado said.

TPN/Lusa

Zambia considers Portuguese in school curriculum

Portugal and Zambia are preparing an accord for the introduction of Portuguese in the African country's school curriculum, according to a senior Lisbon official.

State Secretary for Communities António Braga told Lusa News Agency last week in the South African capital Pretoria he had held favourable talks on the issue with officials in Lusaka amid discussions on strengthened cultural and economic ties.

The two sides had agreed, he said, to study an accord under which Portugal would provide training resources for Zambian teachers and Lusaka would include Portuguese in its school curriculum.

The hinterland African nation is sandwiched between two Lusophone countries, Angola and Mozambique. South Africa, the region's economic powerhouse, hosts a large Portuguese expatriate community.

Braga, who visited Lusaka last Wednesday, described the expansion of Portuguese in southern Africa as "certain", saying the Zambian initiative was "a very relevant opportunity" for Lisbon to promote its language promotion policy in the region.

Portugal recently achieved similar agreements with the Congo Republic and with the Canadian province of British Columbia.

TPN/Lusa

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Portugal to assist Libya in preparation of EU-Africa summit

Portugal will assist Libya in preparing the 3rd European Union-Africa summit, scheduled for November 29 and 30 in Tripoli, Portuguese Foreign Minister Luís Amado said this week.

The first two EU-Africa summits, in 2000 and 2007, took place when Portugal held the EU presidency.

"Since both the first and the second summits were organised by Portugal, we were asked for support, and we will grant it" shortly, Mr. Amado said, after a meeting with his Libyan counterpart, Mussa Kussa, in Luxembourg.

Minister Amado added that Portugal's Foreign Office will aid Tripoli "both in political matters and logistics" over the next few months. *TPN/Lusa*

Portugal ready to serve as EU-Zimbabwe go-between

Portugal is ready to promote a "platform of dialogue" between isolated Zimbabwe and the European Union, which has renewed sanctions against the African country, a senior Lisbon official said this week.

The offer was made by visiting State Secretary for Communities António Braga after talks with the Zimbabwean government in Harare.

Mr Braga told Lusa News Agency he had informed Vice-Prime Minister Thokozani Khupe and Foreign Minister Simbarashe Mumbengegwi of Lisbon's readiness to serve as a broker despite its sharing the EU view that Zimbabwe had fallen short in its power-sharing scheme.

Early this year, Brussels renewed its sanctions against Harare's pro-Mugabe elite for another 12 months.

The sanctions aim to press President Robert Mugabe to implement fully concessions made to the former opposition forces led by current Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai.

TPN/Lusa

Elderly being kept in the family home longer to help pay bills

As a consequence of the global crisis more Portuguese families are opting to keep their elderly family members at home, as opposed to putting them in a care institute, as not only do relatives have more time to care for them, households also benefit from incoming pensions.

Hospitals and care institutions across the country are emptier, with families opting to keep elderly and infirm relatives at home as opposed to paying for their care. In some cases the number of patients being intentionally removed from institutions for these reasons has doubled.

In return, pensions are welcome as an alternative means of survival, substituting a salary for families that have been left on the breadline by unemployment. Situations where entire families are living off the pension of one elderly person have been documented.

On a positive note, in some hospitals the number of elderly people occupying beds, who had already been discharged but had nowhere else to go has diminished. For example, in the Hospital dos Capuchos, during the first half of 2009, 90 cases of such "social re-arrangements" were registered; twice as many as in the same period for the previous year.

A hospital source said there is an increasing number of "grandchildren and children who need these elderly citizens' money".

"Behind the figures is this reality: they are available to look after the elderly because they are unemployed".

Manuel Lemos, President of the Portuguese Charitable Institution Union, expressed concern that this is being done "at the expense of the elderly person's quality of life".

He gave the example an instance where "a family generates huge pressure [on an institution to take on an elderly or infirm family member] because their home is too small and the elderly person needs lots of healthcare; six months later they drop out of wanting a place in the institution, because they have the time to spare, though the house is still too small and the elderly person still requires lots of care".

Nevertheless Portugal's welfare, private and charitable institutions still have waiting lists that are impossibly long. In institutions belonging to the social welfare system alone there are some 50,000 placement requests.

"When one elderly person leaves another one immediately fills their place", Manuel Lemos said.

Even so, just 3.5 percent of Portugal's over-65s live in institutions, the rest live with family members or alone.

Pedro Passos Coelho, leader of the PSD party, talks to an elderly person during a visit to the Santa Casa da Misericórdia home in Tondela on April 23rd. (Photo: Lusa / Nuno André Ferreira)

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Portugal on right track in human trafficking fight

Brendan de Beer

A report released this week by the U.S. Department of State has found that Portugal is on the "right track" in its combat against the trafficking of human beings.

However, while praising some of the progress made by the country, the report, released by Hillary Clinton, places the country in Tier 2, having been placed in the top tier in the last report published in 2006.

This 'demotion' appears more to be the result of Portugal not supplying its latest figures on human trafficking to Washington rather than it having failed to make any progress the past four years.

"Portugal is a destination, a transit point, and source country for women, men, and children subjected to trafficking in persons, specifically forced prostitution and forced labour", the report of Portugal starts off, adding: "Trafficking victims in Portugal are from Brazil, Eastern Europe, and Africa."

According to one NGO, explains the U.S. Department of State, some Portuguese girls are subjected to forced prostitution within the country. Men from Eastern European countries and Brazil are subjected to forced labour in agriculture, construction, hotels, and restaurants.

Washington also criticised the Portuguese government for not fully complying with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, but concedes "it is making significant efforts to do so".

Praise was also handed down to the country for "achieving a significant milestone in its anti-trafficking law enforcement efforts" when it prosecuted a sex trafficking case resulting in the highest penalties ever handed down for a trafficking crime in Portugal.

In this case, the government convicted eight trafficking offenders for forcing 23 Romanian girls into prostitution, resulting in an average sentence of 12 years in prison. In previous years, courts suspended the sentences for the majority of convicted traffickers in Portugal.

The U.S. Department of State also praised the Portuguese government for taking the lead in coordinating and implementing an EU-wide database to develop, consolidate, and share common indicators on trafficking among partner countries.

European home affairs Commissioner, Swedish Cecilia Malmstrom gives a news conference on human trafficking and child pornography at the EU commission headquarters in Brussels on March 29th. (Photo: EPA/Olivier Hoslet)

EU welcomes mobile operators' work on child safety

European Commission Vice-President for the Digital Agenda Neelie Kroes has welcomed progress made by mobile phone operators on their progress to keep children safe while using mobile phones, but urged operators to raise parents' awareness of new potential risks children face when using smart phones (such as easier access to adult content on the internet).

A report recently published by the GSM Association, the trade body of the mobile phone industry, shows that 91 companies are putting in place at national level the measures agreed in a Europe-wide voluntary agreement brokered by the European Commission in 2007.

National self-regulatory codes based on the European framework now exist in 25 Member States, which means that 96 percent of all EU mobile subscribers are benefitting from this agreement.

Commissioner Neelie Kroes said: "Keeping young people safe online is a key commitment of the Digital Agenda for Europe, which is why I welcome today's report which demonstrates that the mobile phone companies are taking their responsibilities seriously. However, I call on the mobile industry to make sure that people of all ages fully understand the risks, and where to find help, as parents are often not as tuned into the latest developments in mobile phones as the younger generation."

Algarve democrats slam closure of 22 primary schools

Regional Democratic Party PSD/Algarve has this week slammed the proposed closure of 22 primary schools in the Algarve, some north of the A22/Via do Infante, others in municipalities that also contest the move.

The proposal was issued under a new Governmental law that foresees the closure of all primary schools with fewer than 21 pupils. It was announced two weeks ago that some 500 primary schools with fewer than 20 pupils will gradually be closed down as of September, some before that month, as part of a Governmental school-network reorganization plan. This will coincide with the beginning of the new school year.

Last week it was announced two primary schools and a pre-school establishment in Condeixa-a-Nova are to close. Condeixa-a-Nova's local town hall confirmed it is considering the closure of two primary schools before the start of the next school year, both of which have fewer than 21 pupils.

This week it emerged that 22 primary schools in the Algarve are in the firing line.

PSD/Algarve has said it has "pondered all the pros and cons of the proposed shut-down and has decided to pronounce itself against it".

According to a list published by the Observatório do Algarve, primary schools in Salema, Burgau and Barão de São Miguel (Vila do Bispo), Faro and Medronhal (Faro), Malhão, Ribeira Alta and Pedreira (Silves), Livramento (Tavira), Azinhal, Odeleite and Junqueira (Olhão) , Areeiro, Poço Novo, Clareanes, Cortelha and Querença (Loulé) will close.

In São Brás de Alportel the Almargens primary school is expected to shut down, along with other establishments in Vale D'el Rei (Lagoa), and Almádena and Espiche (Lagos).

The closure of a school in Marmelete (Monchique) is still under revision, while another in Alcoutim, which was initially expected to close, was left off the list after the transfer of students from that school was considered "inadmissible".

The Government predicted that, as part of an initial closure plan, some 55 schools would not re-open at the start of the new school year in September.

Definite figures will be confirmed on June 15th.

The Government guaranteed that "pupils will only be disrupted if they can be sent to schools with better teaching and learning conditions to guarantee equality and opportunities".

Other conditions that the Government determines as essential for a school remaining open are the existence of a "canteen, IT rooms, and rooms for teaching English and music".

In total there are currently 3,200 primary schools in Portugal, of which 600 have less than 20 pupils. Approximately 470,000 children attend primary school at present. It is estimated that this measure will affect some 10,000 primary-school students.

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New friendship/ cooperation treaty caps first Lisbon-Praia summit

Portugal and Cape Verde have boosted traditionally strong ties with the signing of a Friendship and Cooperation Treaty and other accords in a wide range of fields.

The two countries' prime ministers described the first bilateral cooperation summit held last week as an "historic" turning point in relations between the former colonial power and the African archipelago that is widely regarded for its good governance and economic development.

José Sócrates of Portugal and José Maria Neves of Cape Verde agreed that future, rotating-venue summits would take place every two years.

Beyond the treaty, which set up a new framework for cooperation, the two government delegations inked 11 accords, protocols and memorandums of understanding in the fields of defence, education, renewable energies, information technology, culture and gender equality, among others.

"There is a before and after in this summit" regarding relations between Lisbon and Cidade da Praia, Mr Sócrates said.

He expressed "the greatest pride" in the large Cape Verdean immigrant community in Portugal and praised the "quality of governance" and "absolutely notable" economic progress achieved by the archipelago of less than 500,000 people since its independence in 1975.

"We made history today and I'm sure we'll go far on this journey" together, Mr. Neves said in turn.

The Cape Verdean leader said he hoped bilateral cooperation in the renewable energies sector, a pioneering field for Portugal, would lead to a "stronger" Portuguese presence throughout West Africa.

He also underlined the importance of the defence agreement for maritime security, noting it would bolster the fight against narcotics and people-trafficking, and clandestine immigration.

During the summit, Praia reaffirmed its support for Lisbon's bid for a non-permanent UN Security Council seat for the 2011-2012 term. *TPN/Lusa*

Photo above left: Prime Minister José Sócrates and his Cape Verdean counterpart José Maria Pereira Neves pose for a family photograph at the Luso-Cape Verde summit in Oeiras on June 9th. (Photo: Lusa / Tiago Petinga)

NGOs chastise Portugal for not fulfilling aid commitments

The Portuguese Non-Governmental Organisations Platform (NGOP) has lamented that Portugal's commitments in terms of development aid continue to be unfulfilled.

"Of course you have to consider the financial crisis, but the fact is that Portugal, as well as every European Union member state, undertook a commitment" to increase its development aid to 0.51 percent of GDP, and to increase it to 0.7 percent of GDP until 2015, said César Neto, NGOP spokesman.

Portugal's development aid, according to an Aidwatch report published in Brussels late last week, amounted only to 0.23 percent of GDP in 2009, below the stated target and in fact below the 0.27 percent figure for 2008.

"Looking at the numbers, we understand how hard it will be [for Portugal to fulfil its commitments], but what we ask is that, at the least, Portugal be able to increase its development aid", Mr Neto said.

Lusa News Agency sought a reaction from Portuguese Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Secretary of State João Gomes Cravinho, but none has been forthcoming so far. ***TPN/Lusa***

Alfama win Lisbon's Popular Marches

This year's Popular Marches competition was won by Alfama once again, under the Republic's centenary theme. A total of twenty four associations marched down the Avenida da Liberdade, although only twenty participated in the competition.

Folk clubs and cultural associations in each of the neighbourhoods of Lisbon presented their teams across the ample Avenida da Liberdade to compete for the best marching performance, music score and choreography.

The entity responsible for the competition, EGEAC (Cultural Entertainment and Management of Equipments Company) announced the competition winners on Sunday afternoon, with Alfama taking the crown once again, followed by Marvila and Bairro da Bica.

This year's theme was the Republic's centenary, with all the teams gladly dressing up for the occasion.

The only teams from last year that did not participate in this year's competition were the last placed ones, Belém and Campolide.

Lisbon's Popular Marches teams are given scores from 0 to 20 on two separate occasions, at the Atlântico Pavillion (within the Expo 98 grounds) on 4th, 5th and 6th June, and at Avenida da Liberdade on 12th June. The teams are given scores in the following categories: choreography, best marching performance, music, best lyrics, best costumes and most original team.

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One of the Popular Marches team parades on Avenida da Liberdade, in Lisbon, June 12th 2010 (Photo: Tiago Petinga/Lusa)

Cascais cruise liner project receives award

A newly opened business has recently won the Competition for Business Ideas in Cascais, which consists of Cascais Bay harbouring luxury cruise liners, with several tourism services associated to the area, such as golf and restaurants.

'King's Coast' was the company that won the fourth Competition for Business Ideas in Cascais (CINC), seeing the arrival of luxury cruise liners and the creation of several services associated to tourism as a wise entrepreneurial investment. Golf, wine tasting, gastronomic experiences and walks throughout the council are just some of the services conjured up by the company, which has existed for just over eight months.

Paulo Dias, one of the mentors of the project, explained that the group's objective is to "promote Cascais Bay and create conditions so the council can be modernised, since it is already a luxury tourism destination."

According to the entrepreneur "Cascais has all the conditions to promote itself as a luxury destination and has the structural conditions to harbour large cruise liners, so we decided to move forward with our business." So far, 'King's Coast' has a twenty year exclusivity contract with Cascais Marina, four cruise liners confirmed for this year and a further twelve for 2011, as well as having Turismo de Portugal as its main partner.

Although the business was already established with these ideas in line, the company decided to participate in the competition to guarantee more partnerships and support.

A total of eighteen projects were presented at this year's Competition for Business Ideas in Cascais, in several areas, such as environment, health, energy, tourism, retail and services.

The winning project received a €2,500 prize, as well as direct entry to the START competition, a national entrepreneurial competition, where the winning team receives over €300,000.

The Competition for Business Ideas in Cascais began in 2007 and has so far supported over 60 projects, equivalent to €18 million in investments.

Oeiras Joint Forces Command not in jeopardy

Augusto Santos Silva, the Minister for Defense, has disregarded claims that the Oeiras NATO command will be closing in the near future and guaranteed that Portugal will defend keeping it if shutting down is considered.

Augusto Silva dos Santos spoke to news agency Lusa at the end of a meeting that gathered all NATO's Ministers for Defense in Brussels, where plans of reducing the number of the Atlantic's Alliance structures was discussed, such as military compounds and agencies.

The Minister for Defense said there are no reasons to worry about the Oeiras Joint Forces Command as at the moment only studies regarding the reduction of establishments are being carried out, with closures only taking place if the reform is approved in Lisbon's summit next November. Furthermore, geographical nature will not be a factor in the assessment of the establishments to be closed, the reason why Oeiras Joint Forces Command has not been considered.

When asked what actions the Portuguese Government will take when the moment comes to decide which establishments to close in Portugal, Augusto Silva dos Santos replied "Portugal will defend the keeping [of Oeiras Command], and not only due to national interest, but also because the Oeiras command possesses unique characteristics from the rest of NATO's second level commands." Amongst these characteristics, the Minister for Defense pointed out its "flexibility in organization, a strong support from its host nation, in this case Portugal, and also its ability of providing an essential connection of the Atlantic Alliance with the south."

British Community Fun and Games Day

Everyone is welcome along to St. Julian's School in Carcavelos on Saturday 19th June, for the now traditional 'Fun and Games Day'. Up to 20 teams of 10 individuals will compete in 7 different sports over the course of the afternoon. Anybody interested in joining a team should contact Tim Munnion, the sports coordinator, on tim.munnion@excelformacao.pt.

As well as enjoying the touch rugby, hockey, lacrosse, basketball, volleyball, football and Scottish dancing, spectators will be able to find those hidden treasures at a car boot sale, held in the school's playground. For younger children there will be a bouncy castle and other delights to keep them occupied.

The inner man has not been forgotten, with a barbecue and fresh sandwiches and cakes from the WRVS. As always, the Casual's bar will be well stocked to ensure nobody gets too thirsty.

All funds raised on the day will go towards two very worthy charities, the Royal British Legion's appeal and the "SOS Village Children's Home"; buy your raffle tickets on the day. Also a tombola will be running throughout the afternoon, also with excellent prizes donated by many generous benefactors.

Teams should arrive before 11.30 for their briefing and events will start at 12.00. There will be the raffle draw, along with the presentation of trophies, at around 17.00.

Please come along if you are in the Lisbon/Cascais area on Saturday and make this another very memorable and enjoyable day and perhaps even winning one of those fantastic raffle prizes.

Further information is available from British Community Council chairman, Greg Leadbeater, on g_leadbeater@hotmail.com

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President Cavaco Silva talks to school children in Faro as part of the Portugal Day celebrations (Photo: Lusa / Luis Forra)

Holidays in Algarve more expensive than Caribbean?

Enjoying a vacation in the Algarve could turn out more expensive than travelling to some of the Caribbean's most popular destinations for an all-inclusive holiday, a report by state-owned Lusa News Agency suggests.

Should those opting for a 'Staycation', as urged by Portugal's President Cavaco Silva, chose to holiday in the Algarve they could face spending the same on a week's holiday in Portugal as travelling to the Caribbean.

One week in the Algarve, in a five-star hotel including breakfast, could cost a couple in the region of €1,500.

However, a week's all-inclusive package (which includes all transport, food and beverages within the resort of choice) to destinations such as Punta Cana (Dominican Republic), Mexico (Riviera Maya), or Venezuela (Margarita Island), costs in the region of €2,000.

Alternatively, the Portuguese could opt to 'Staycate' on the Islands of the Azores or Madeira, where the most affordable seven-night bed and breakfast package in a 4-star hotel costs in the region of €450 and €600 respectively.

However, more direct competition comes in the form of the Spanish Isles, such as Majorca, where an identical package costs in the region of €700, including flights and half-board in a 4-star hotel (breakfast and evening meal).

Last weekend President Cavaco Silva voiced his concern about Portugal's "serious" economic situation and urged the nation to holiday within the country, to help overcome the financial struggles.

According to Portuguese newspaper *Jornal de Negócios*, foreign tourists in Portugal spend 2.5 times more than the Portuguese when abroad.

Figures from the bank of Portugal showed that foreign tourists spent €6.9 million in travel and tourism in Portugal, in comparison to the 2.7 million euros the Portuguese spent last year on travel and tourism abroad.

Portimão declares war on street vendors

Portimão Town Hall and PSP officers issued twenty fines to street vendors on Praia da Rocha's main street last Friday for not possessing obligatory licences.

Besides the fines issued by authorities, several items were confiscated from the street salesmen, such as African handicrafts, toys, handbags, sunglasses and paintings.

This operation is part of the council's strategy, in conjunction with the PSP, to control the use of public walkways and discipline those not complying with the law. Several other operations are planned in other areas of Portimão.

Two suspected drug dealers arrested in Faro

Two men, aged 36 and 50, were arrested in Faro last Saturday after PSP officers said they found 560 individual doses of heroine, eight individual doses of cocaine, sixteen mobile phones and €400 in cash in their possession.

Both men were suspected of supplying heroin to drug addicts of the region's capital city and surrounding areas, said the police, who arrested the men during an operation looking to control drug trafficking in the city.

In a statement released by the PSP, both individuals were caught with "560 individual doses of heroin, eight individual doses of cocaine, a van, around €400 in cash, sixteen mobile phones and material used for drug trafficking activity, which both had been carrying out for several months."

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Sailing's elite come to Portimão

The world's best sailing teams will be coming to Portimão for the Portimão Portugal Match Cup, the Portuguese stage of the World Match Racing Tour, which takes place between June 23rd and 27th at the Portimão Marina.

Sponsored by EDP, Turismo de Portugal, Portimão Council and Sá Machado group, the Portugal Match Cup consists of twelve teams competing for the prestigious first place in the World Match Racing Tour, which is considered the training and qualifying event for the Americas Cup as it has the same format, rules, judges and skippers.

It is a world recognised event, which is why the Sá Machado Group are so proud to have hosted this event since 2004: "To have a WMRT (World Match Racing Tour) in Portugal, supported by several institutions, shows, once again, the Portuguese people's calling to traverse the oceans of the world" said Justino de Sá Machado, chairman of the group.

Taking place simultaneously with the Portugal Match Cup will be the Portimão Portugal Junior Cup, from June 25th to 27th, as well as the Portimão Portugal Women's Cup, from June 30th to July 3rd.

Some of the world's best sailing teams will be in Portimão between June 23rd and 27th at the Portimão Marina to compete for the Portugal Match Cup.

Hot air balloon crashes into sea off Albufeira coast

Three people were rescued by the Portuguese Coast Guard last Sunday after their hot air balloon lost altitude and crashed into the sea, four miles off the Albufeira coast.

The Coast Guard's vessel, moored in Ferragudo, was called out at around 8am on Sunday morning, having saved all three occupants of the hot air balloon. No injuries were registered as the hot air balloon landed softly in the sea after losing altitude. Both passengers were Portuguese and the pilot was of Spanish nationality.

After the three people were rescued, another vessel managed to salvage the hot air balloon and take it back to the coast.

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How to Run an Inquiry: Bloody Sunday and Mavi Marmara

In the aftermath of the bloody events on the aid ship Mavi Marmara, where nine pro-Palestinian activists were killed by Israeli commandos on 31 May, Israel has set up a judicial inquiry into the affair. Since Israeli prime minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who chose the members of the inquiry, has already described the victims as "violent Turkish terror extremists" on a "ship of hate", some people doubt that the investigation will be impartial.

John Kelly (C) whose brother Michael Kelly,was shot dead on Bloody Sunday,celebrates with other family members following the final outcome of the Bloody Sunday Inquiry, in Londonderry, Northern Ireland on 15 June 2010. The Saville Inquiry into Bloody Sunday will be published today after 12 years and a cost of 190 million GBP or (275 million US dollars, 230 million euros), the 5,000-page report examines the events of 30 January 1972 in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, when 13 civilians were shot dead by British soldiers at a civil rights march. EPA/PAUL FAITH / POOL

On 15 June, the second inquiry into "Bloody Sunday" in the Northern Irish city of Derry, where fourteen civil rights marchers were killed by British paratroops on 30 January, 1972, delivered its report. The first people to see it were the relatives of the victims. On the whole, they seemed satisfied.

The British inquiry was chaired by Lord Saville, a former High Court judge. Since the inquiry involved the British Army, the other two members were senior judges from New Zealand and Canada, not from Britain. And the Saville inquiry's report was utterly damning.

It said that none of the casualties had guns, and that there were "no instances where it appeared to us that soldiers either were or might have been justified in firing." The paratroops gave no warnings before they started shooting, and a number of soldiers afterwards "knowingly put forward false accounts in order to seek to justify their firing."

The report also said bluntly that the soldiers had lost their self-control, "forgetting or ignoring their instructions and training, and failing to satisfy themselves that they had identified targets posing a threat of causing death or serious injury…There was a serious and widespread loss of fire discipline." Neither their commanders nor the British government wanted to kill innocent people, but they were to blame for it nevertheless.

Prime Minister David Cameron, disclosing the conclusions of the report to the House of Commons in London, did not pull his punches either. "You do not defend the British Army by defending the indefensible. There is no doubt. There is nothing equivocal. There are no ambiguities. It. Was. Wrong." And he apologised on behalf of the British state, without qualifications.

If a similarly impartial tribunal inquired into the events that occurred aboard the Gaza-bound aid ship last month, it would probably come to identical conclusions. We know enough about confrontations where none of the soldiers or police die, but lots of the demonstrators/protesters/rioters do, to understand the psychology and the crowd dynamics of it.

That impartial inquiry would probably conclude that there was a "serious and widespread loss of fire discipline" among the Israeli commandos (five of the nine dead civilians were shot in the back or the back of the head). It would also probably find that few if any of the activists had lethal weapons, or acted in ways that justified killing them.

The report would almost certainly agree that nobody in authority in Israel intended a massacre, but that the government and the military must still bear the blame for the killings. Like the Saville report, it would not talk of "murder" or "unlawful killing", but it would leave the door open for prosecutions by the appropriate authorities. And the Israeli prime minister, of course, would apologise on behalf of the nation.

All of this may well come to pass in Israel – in 2048, thirty-eight years from now. Because that is how long it took the British government to get from the Widgery report, the original whitewash that was produced only months after the Bloody Sunday massacre, to the Saville report.

Lord Chief Justice Widgery's report in 1972 was a shameless cover-up that blamed the victims: "There is a strong suspicion that some (of the dead and wounded) had been firing weapons or handling bombs in the course of the afternoon." And, of course, it exonerated the soldiers: "There is no reason to suppose that the soldiers would have opened fire if they had not been fired upon first."

Those lies stood for 38 years, which is why the first people to be shown Saville's report this week were the victims' families. It won't bring the dead back to life, but it is a reckoning of sorts. The British government is a slow learner, but it does learn.

Tony Blair, back when he was still a new and popular figure, ordered this second inquiry into Blood Sunday in 1998. Only twelve years and £191 million ($283 million) later, it has finally seen the light.

Israel has appointed ex-Supreme Court judge Yaakov Tirkel, retired Israeli army officer Amos Horev, and Shabbtai Rosen, an Israeli professor of international law, to the current inquiry, but the only two foreign members are observers who have no vote, so this will probably be Israel's Widgery report. There may be an Israeli version of the Saville report eventually, but not this year or next.

Who knows? By 2041, only 38 years late, the United States may even hold an inquiry into the "loss of fire discipline" by US paratroops in Falluja in 2003, the massacre of Sunni Arab youths that sparked the Iraqi resistance to the American occupation of Iraq. But not yet.

Sovereignty means never having to say you're sorry. Or at least not for a long, long while.

Gwynne Dyer is a London based independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries.

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The ultimate anti ageing facial is available in Portugal

For the last three years, award winning therapist Suzie Bell of Senses... Skin Care Centre, has been carrying out the Bio Ultimate Non Surgical Facelift at her Lagos based salon and now she is introducing Microdermabrasion. Suzie intends to combine the two facial treatments to offer what has been voted as the Ultimate Anti Ageing Facial by The Times.

Suzie has seen huge success with the Bio Ultimate Platinum Non Surgical Facelift treatment and it is now her most popular treatment. The treatment is based on muscle re-education and lifts muscles that begin to drop and slacken as we age. This treatment has additional benefits as it increases energy in the skin and muscle cells by up to 500% meaning that there will be dramatic improvements in collagen and elastin production. A permanent lift can be achieved with this machine and it is the safe and pain free alternative to going under the knife.

With the introduction of the Microdermabrasion machine Suzie is able to enhance the treatment options at the salon. Microdermabrasion can be used alone to diminish fine lines and wrinkles, repair sun damaged skin, reduce scarring and reduce pigmentation. During a treatment a fine stream of crystals are gently propelled over the surface of the skin to remove dead skin cells. The treatment will leave your skin smooth and radiant.

Microdermabrasion is an essential preparation treatment. Its exfoliating action makes it the perfect first step in any facial which is why it has incredible effects when combined with the Bio Ultimate Non Surgical Facelift. When combined the treatments will stimulate cellular renewal, collagen synthesis and diminish lines caused by expression ageing achieving a rejuvenated, youthful appearance.

To celebrate their 4th birthday Senses... Skin Care Centre have many special offers on all of their facial treatments throughout June and July making this the perfect time to start caring for your skin. Among the special offers is the taster treatment. This treatment is a full facial including the Microdermabrasion and Non Surgical Facelift and is only 30 euros throughout June and July. Even if you would simply like some advice Suzie is more than willing to offer you a free anti ageing consultation to explain your options.

You are also invited to the Senses... Open Day on Saturday 26th June. The open day starts at 10am and treatment slots for a mini manicure, taster massage or mini facial are available but early booking for these limited treatment slots is advised. On the open day Suzie and Susan from Senses... will be on hand to talk treatments, anti ageing and products. You'll be given free samples and a glass of summer punch to get you in the mood for summer! All new and existing clients are welcome.

Learn Portuguese and get connected

The CLCC - Centre for Languages, Culture and Communication is a private institution, located in Portimão that has been in existence for 17 years. The company is officially recognised by DGERT (the institute that certifies the quality of schools in Portugal), the Ministry of Education and the British Council.

Learn Portuguese this Summer

Many foreigners have settled in the Algarve, and with this in mind the CLCC has specialized in Portuguese for foreigners as well. Recognizing the challenges foreigners face in terms of integration and social adaptation, the CLCC focuses on conversation during the lessons.

Throughout the year you can attend several Portuguese courses at the CLCC (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced and Conversation classes, year-long as well as intensive courses). All courses are taught by a specialized and qualified instructor; all the teachers are native speakers. During the class the emphasis is on practising the language, using books and resources containing various reading, writing, grammar and oral exercises.

During this summer the CLCC is organizing intensive summer courses, at both beginner and intermediate level. The intensive courses are 30 hours long, and take place for 2 consecutive weeks, every morning from 9.30AM to 12.30PM. These courses provide the students with a solid base in Portuguese, which they can use in daily life.

The CLCC is not only a place to study, but also a place where students can meet up, have a coffee, share experiences and talk about everyday life in Portugal. On the last day of each course the CLCC offers a typically Portuguese snack and a drink. During the summer a 'sardinhada' is organized regularly, so that the students can try the famous Algarvean dish in an informal and fun atmosphere.

Throughout the year the CLCC organizes cultural events, 'Janela Aberta', open to all people eager to know more about the Portuguese language and culture. A guided visit to the Portimão museum and a boat trip on the river Arade from Portimão to Silves are visits that will be organized again - because of the enthusiastic reaction.

Enova Group continues to lead the energy sector

Enova Group is moving forward at a recession beating pace with a new Home Energy Audit launched this month and new home control technology to be introduced later this summer.

The Home Energy Audit guarantees monthly savings on home electricity bills and is proving popular with Algarve homeowners looking for ways to improve their spend efficiency.

At the same time Enova Group is now the trade mark of a single streamlined public company, Technoloje SA, shedding its previous form of five independent companies.

Enova Group continues to provide expert services for solar heating and power, energy management, home control, security, surveillance and leisure solutions. The Group is adding low energy home design, home build and renovation to its successful portfolio. It provides home owners with easy to use solutions, cost savings, security and peace of mind through skilled service back-up.

Founder and technology expert Alan Jones will continue to provide vision and strategic leadership to Enova Group, with well known Algarve-based engineer Colin Reid in charge of the day to day management of the team.

Jones said: "Focus and professional management are keys to success in tough markets and we are ensuring that Enova Group not only succeeds but leads." He noted there will be added focus and financial security under the public company structure of Technoloje SA, as well as a rapid development of further innovative, cost efficient solutions, improved service and quality and value for clients.

As to the future Jones said "We have fantastic communication and infrastructure in the Algarve. This coupled with an excellent graduate pool from local universities continues to provide a keen and skilled engineering base enabling us to invest in and build technology relevant to the Algarve market."

Three independent companies no longer part of the new structure are Piscinas em Pedra (Pebble Pools), Netconexion Lda, and EuroPebbletec. Tim Gurnett has returned Pebble Pools to a fully independent status and continues to own and operate this company as before. Netconexion is now part of CanaryWharf Lda, still under the management of Paul Harris.

Techmotix Lda is now an integrated part of the overall Enova Group and customers will not be affected by these corporate changes.

In all other respects, customers will continue to deal with the same experts in the revitalized corporate structure of Enova Group, the registered trade mark of Technoloje SA.

You are guaranteed to lower your bills!

Rimini Projects

Building a new home should be an exhilarating experience but, more often than not, it is overshadowed by problems which could have easily been avoided if only the right people had been contacted in the first place.

Before undergoing any project, many inexperienced people in the area will say project management services are an unnecessary surplus when building or renovating. However, what they do not realise is that these services are essential in keeping all the contractors, builders, architects, working together and in the same frame of mind, so that your initial concept can be replicated into a real structure before your eyes in an efficient, productive manner, with no complications.

Project management services also relieve their clients from all the stress involved when building or renovating; putting their minds at rest throughout the whole project with the company taking the burden to ensure everything runs smoothly, leaving clients with only the enjoyable aspects of building a new home to appreciate.

Nicky and Richard Gibbs created Rimini Projects last June with clear objectives in mind: to provide their clients with a bespoke and innovative service based on a relationship of trust, professional integrity and absolute transparency of costs.

With over thirty years experience in project management in the UK and overseas, Richard knows exactly how to handle a project from beginning to end, coordinating the process and offering professional advice, with the clients ideas always in mind. "What makes us different from many project management services is the fact we charge fixed fees for projects so clients know exactly what they are going to pay from the beginning, as well as providing updated information of the project in a dedicated client area on our website, allowing our clients to see the progress, whether they are in the country or not" says Nicky.

Rimini Projects focus on making environmentally friendly homes, blending high standards of build and design with functionality, all with as much use of natural resources as is appropriate. They can minimise cost and reduce build time without affecting quality, by utilising the most efficient planning and process techniques.

Rimini Projects, a UK based business, have an office at the brand new Eden Resort at Albufeira and at home in Vale do Lobo and work across the whole Algarve and northern Portugal as well as the UK.

THIS WEEK'S PROFILES

Senses Skin Care Centre

For more information on Senses...Skin Care Centre please call 282 762 261 or visit their website www.senses-skincare.com.

Enova Group

Contact Enova Group for details of their popular Home Energy Audit on Email : info@enova-group.com
Telephone: 282 770 080
Website: www.enova-group.com

CLCC

If you want more information about our summer courses you can contact CLCC on 282 430 250, e-mail anouk@clcc.pt, or visit their website www.clcc.pt.

Rimini Projects

For more information on Rimini Projects, please call +351 914 131 999, +44 7746 712 863, email info@riminiprojects.com or visit their comprehensive website www.rimini projects.com.

If you would like us to profile YOUR business, call our Sales Manager on tel: 707 500 677

Algarve Senior Bikers Group

Some of the senior bikers in the Algarve (pictured above), who are interested in forming a group at the first meeting at the Bacchus Bar in Porches. Riders attended from all parts of the Algarve, from west of Lagos to Tavira in the east. Phone numbers and email addresses were exchanged and new friends were made.

It was generally agreed it was a good idea and more meetings and rides will be arranged in the near future. Possibly for lunches or visits to places of interest. Attending motorcycle and car events and other local functions. May be even to just get together for a coffee and a natter once a month.

Thank you to all those who turned up on Saturday and those who were interested but could not meet at Porches on this occasion. You will all be kept informed of future events.

If you like the idea and would like to be involved why not just phone or e-mail for more information. Contact David Shirley by: e-mailing at: davethemoto @yahoo.com or phone 282444061/mobile - 918421613.

Bowls Algarve – Summer League 10th June

Kestrels flying High – Pirates Ransack Tavira

Round six already! All teams assembled at PDF to play off the latest series of Summer league matches and Alvor Kestrels tightened their grip on the lead by beating nearest rivals Alvor Larks by 47-19 and by nine points to one. Valverde also lost ground on the leaders, going down 41-28 to Amendoeira, who earned eight points against two for the Valverde team. PDF Pirates maintained their improved form with an excellent 46-27 victory over an emerging Tavira side. PDF took eight points to two. Albufeira Cats lost out to the successful Alvor Doves, who won comfortably 46-30 and by six points to two.

Pedras Stones continue to struggle and were again unable to provide two triples. As a result they lost to the Alvor Eagles by 32-16 and eight points to two. Further penalties also saw them deducted two more points and ten more shots.

Kestrels now have 51 points, eleven ahead of the Larks who are on 40 and Doves who rise to third with 34 points. Tavira slip to fourth on 32 and Amendoeira are fifth with 31 points. Valvered are now in sixth on 27 and Pirates then have 23. Eagles lift off the bottom and also now have 23 points. Cats remain in ninth on 19, whilst Pedras slip to the bottom of the table with 16 points. Round seven next week is at Tavira, where Kestrels play Valverde, Doves play Amendoeira and Pirates take on the struggling Pedras side. Larks go up against the Eagles and the home side Tavira play ABC Cats.

Alan Clarke – League Director

Bike rides

Wednesday, 16th June: Bike Ride - Starting at Chillimans Restaurant . Chillimans is on the Almancil to Quarteira road, just along from Snr Frango's. Meet at 6.20 for a 6.30 start. This will be a fairly challenging ride on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac with drinks and snacks at Chilliamns afterwards .

Saturday 19th June: Bike Ride - Vale Telheiro, we will meet by the old Escola Primaria. Meet at 09.45 for a 10.00 start. A ride of around 35 km on challenging and hilly terrain.

Sunday 20th June: Bike Ride - Starting in Fuseta. Park close by the railway station on the Northern side of Fuseta where we will catch the 09.53 train to Cacela . A mostly flat and gentle ride of around 30 km on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac roads following the Ecovia do Litoral most of the way. There will be a cafe stop somewhere along the way too .

Wednesday 23rd June: Bike Ride - starting in Quinta Shopping . Park anywhere you can in Quinta shopping. We will start the ride from De Barra (you may want to watch the England v Slovenia game there earlier at 3pm) . This will be a fairly challenging ride of around 25 km on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac roads.

For more information call Paul Beesley on 913226954 or e.mail: paul.beesley@sapo.pt or visit 'Algarve Bike Rides' on Facebook.

The St. Patrick's Society 'Irish Walk'

Saturday, June 26 at 10:15 for a prompt 10:30 start.

The final 'Irish Walk' of this season will be in the Tavira area, for a change. The meeting place is Café Tridoce in Sta. Luzia, 2km west of Tavira. Directions: Come off the A22 motorway at the Tavira turnoff, and go down the link road to the Sail Roundabout, and go straight across following the Tavira signs. Go straight across another roundabout and a 4-way cross roads. Keep left at the church, through a really narrow bit and then straight on, 2km for Sta. Luzia. As you enter the village, the first building on the left has a café, after which turn left and Café Tridoce/Virgilios is the first café on the right, with plenty of parking.

The walk will take in sea front and inland country areas, and will take about 2½hrs. For further information call Gaynor 967456330, or Jim 282 431595.

Celebration Worship Service

At Hotel Delfim, Alvor in the Sunset Room (behind reception) at 10.30am on Sunday, June 20th. Music will be led by 'Chapter One' the Christian music group. Everyone is welcome. For more information call: 282 461 985 or 917 358 098.

Help For Heroes fundraising success

The Dinner Dance on 29th May at The Garbe Hotel, Armação de Pêra, was an outstanding success, with a sell-out of 120 tickets. Sara Band kindly provided the music, free of charge. A tombola together with an auction helped to increase the overall profit to more than €5,300. An initial €5,000 has been sent to the Help for Heroes charity in the UK.

The organisers of the event, Carol Williamson, Carole Good-Dixon and Heather Scott wish to thank everyone who supported their fundraising over the past weeks, for the many donations received and for the 60 plus tombola prizes provided. To those who gave free advertising, publicity and printing etc, our heartfelt thanks.

Fundraising will continue through the summer with the main emphasis on 'Phones For Heroes' a scheme to recycle unwanted mobile phones with 60% of the proceeds being donated to H4H. To date, 'Phones For Heroes' has raised over £40,000 for the charity and is an environmentally friendly way of disposing of your old phone, too. Details of six collecting points are as follows:

1. Cockerel Country Kitchen Restaurant, Areias Sao Joao, Albufeira.
2. Quo Vadis Restaurant, Cerro Grande, Albufeira.
3. Monty's restaurant, Vale do Lobo.
4. The Garbe Hotel, Armacao de Pera.
5. Let the Magic In, English Shop, Algoz.
6. Direct Transport, Porches.

The recent Help for Heroes Dinner Dance at The Hotel Garbe.

Wolf Valley Charity Golf and Family Day a resounding success

The Wolf Valley Charity Fund (WVCF) Golf and Family day on June 5th. was a great success. This year it was combined with Algarve Racing's open day at Vale do Lobo so there was a fabulous mixture of golf, racing and sports cars, a helicopter, a powerboat, two raffles, and many other attractions. The WVCF raised over €35,000 on its 11th Anniversary Charity Day.

Blessed by excellent weather 152 golfers played on the Royal and Ocean courses. To add to the excitement there were two cars available for those lucky enough to get a hole-in-one, an Audi A6 on the 16th. of the Royal and a VW Passat on the 15th. of the Ocean, presented by Lacocar. The winners of the Four Ball Better Ball Stableford competition on the Royal were Poul and Vibeke Snorgaard with 46 points and on the Ocean were Harry Wiggins and Paula Marques with 48 points. There were no hole-in-one winners!

Algarve Racing provides VIP hospitality at the Autódromo Internacional do Algarve near Portimão and unique driver experiences in racing and track cars. They chose this day to launch their Ultimate Horsepower Experience. Their display including an American NASCAR and Ginetta racing cars, and a Honda CBR600 racing bike; a Crownline 8 litre V8 speedboat and a Robinson R44 helicopter. The helicopter carried out a number of sightseeing flights. Algarve Racing's raffle prizes included all kinds of adventure trips and VIP hospitality. Algarve Racing very kindly donated the proceeds from their raffle to the WVCF.

Clive Dunn, a long time patron and supporter of the WVCF, signed copies of his hilarious autobiography 'Permission to Speak'.

Hermes Alberto, President of Associação Social e Cultural de Almancil (ASCA) joined the charity day festivities. He told Peter Geer, president of the WVCF, that the work on the residential care home in Almancil for the old people was proceeding on schedule for an opening by the end of the year.

The WVCF will fund the purchase of furniture for this home as its major project for this year. Peter, said the Charity Day was well supported and thanked local businesses, restaurants, residents and friends for all their support and donations as well as the Vale do Lobo Group of companies which helped make the Charity Day such a great success.

'Countdown 2010 in a nutshell'

The E U's Heads of state have promised to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010 through the following: Recovery of 10% of species and ecosystems; Reduction of pesticides and fertilizer; Control of overfishing; Control of urban development which threatens animal and plant life; Fighting climate change. (www.countdown2010.net)

This theme inspired the artists of Sintra-Arte Group and on 26th June, from 5pm to 8pm they are presenting an exhibition entitled 'Ambiente', with live music from Momentime Trio at 6pm. The exhibition will run until 31st July and the Adega will be open Thursdays to Sunday 3pm to 6pm. See: www.sintra-arte.com or e-mail: info@sintra-arte.com.

Half a ton of explosive materials stolen from quarry, ETA link denied

Portugal's criminal police (*Polícia Judiciária*, PJ) have ruled out any connection between Basque separatist group ETA and the theft of half a ton of explosives from a Nelas (Viseu, Northeast Portugal) quarry.

PJ sources told Lusa News Agency on Wednesday that the probable motive behind the Sunday theft of 500 kilos of a nitroglycerin-based substance was "resale on the black market".

The ETA link was suggested in statements by Spain's Interior Minister Alfredo Pérez Rubalcaba, who told Portuguese daily *Diário de Notícias* that investigators wanted to find out "whether this was a case of common theft or if ETA is involved".

Pérez Rubalcaba also said, however, that "so far there is no information linking the theft to ETA".

PJ sources confirmed that Spain's Guardia Civil was alerted about the theft, but only as "a matter of routine procedure" since "international cooperation standards" imply notifying neighbouring countries whenever large amounts of explosives are stolen.

TPN/Lusa

A policeman in the house situated in the parish of Santa Maria de Obidos, in Avarela, where large quantities of explosives allegedly used by suspected members of Basque terrorist organization (ETA), were found on February 5th. (Photo: Lusa / Mário Caldeira)

Plan to bring legal certainty to cross-border divorces approved

The European Parliament, meeting in Strasbourg on Wednesday, has approved a European Commission plan to allow 14 EU countries to implement rules giving international couples the ability to agree on which law would apply to their divorce.

The approval follows a request from nine EU Member States, which wanted to move forward after a 2006 Commission proposal became deadlocked in the Council. EU Justice Ministers endorsed the measure on 4 June.

The new solution will help couples of different nationalities, those living apart in different countries or those living together in a country other than their home country. It is the first time in EU history that EU countries have used the so-called 'enhanced cooperation' mechanism.

"Today's vote shows that there is a strong spirit of cooperation in the EU since the Lisbon Treaty took effect," said Vice-President Viviane Reding, Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship. "I'm very pleased the European Parliament has taken such quick action to add its support so that hundreds of thousands of international couples can start benefitting from this measure. I also thank the Spanish Presidency for its great efforts in building a consensus around this historic vote."

On 24 March this year, the Commission responded to a request by nine EU Member States that were frustrated with the Council's failure to move forward (Greece was initially part of the plan and later withdrew its request).

Since then, five additional countries – Germany, Belgium, Latvia, Malta and Portugal – asked to be part of the EU action.

The proposal aims to lessen the burden on children and to protect weaker partners during divorce disputes. The need for EU action is clear: There were more than 1 million divorces in the 27 EU Member States in 2007, of which 140,000 (13 percent) had an 'international' element.

EU examines use of security scanners at airports

The European Commission this week issued a communication assessing the use of security scanners at EU airports, at the request of the European Parliament and Member States.

In the wake of the terrorist attempt to use explosives on the Amsterdam–Detroit flight on 25 December 2009, security scanners are being increasingly used and are continuing to be trialled in several EU Member States including the UK, the Netherlands, France and Italy. Security scanners currently fall outside the scope of the EU regulations on aviation security — there is a patchwork of regulation in different Member States. The report published on Wednesday highlights that this screening method offers a real possibility to reinforce passenger security.

The Commission is in favour of an EU approach to ensure that, where Member States decide to use security scanners, their deployment and operation is based on common standards, requiring basic detection performance as well as ensuring a harmonised level of compliance with European fundamental rights and health provisions.

It will seek the views of the European Parliament and of the Council in the light of the factual information gathered in the report.

Vice-President Siim Kallas, responsible for transport, said: "Security scanners are being used by an increasing number of Member States across the EU, but at the moment their use falls outside the scope of EU law, so they are used in Member states in different ways. Security scanners are not a panacea, but they do offer a real possibility to further reinforce passenger security. It is for each Member State to decide whether to authorise the use of scanners in national airports. That will not change. But where this scanning technology is used it should be covered by EU-wide standards on detection capability as well as common safeguards to ensure compliance with EU health and fundamental rights provisions."

Inflation climbs to 1.1%

The Portuguese yearly inflation rate for May was 1.1 percent, 0.4 percentage points higher than April's, Eurostat (the European Commission's statistics agency) announced Wednesday.

According to INE (Portugal's statistics agency), the rise is mostly due to price increases in "transportations and also housing" and utilities.

The May inflation rate for the Eurozone (of which Portugal is a member), according to Eurostat, was 1.6 percent, edging closer to the European Central Bank's unofficial target of two percent.

TPN/Lusa

EC adopts draft agreement with the US to track terrorist finance

The European Commission on Wednesday adopted the draft Terrorist Finance Tracking Programme (TFTP) Agreement with the United States.

The Agreement contains guarantees that ensure protection of EU citizens' data, while enabling U.S. and EU law enforcement authorities to make use of a paramount tool in the fight against terrorism. It will now be up to the Council to approve the Agreement which will require the consent of the European Parliament before it can come into force.

"The European Commission has negotiated on behalf of the European Union an agreement that will increase the security of European citizens while at the same time fully respecting their rights to privacy and data protection", said Cecilia Malmström, Commissioner for Home Affairs.

She added: "The draft Agreement is a substantial improvement as compared with the rejected Interim Agreement. It takes account of the key issues raised by the European Parliament and Council. I call now on the Council and the European Parliament to take the necessary steps to allow the Agreement to enter into force a soon as possible."

The draft Agreement significantly strengthens data protection guarantees concerning transparency, rights of access, rectification and erasure of inaccurate data. The Agreement guarantees non-discriminatory rights of administrative redress and ensures that any person whose data is processed under the Agreement will have rights to seek judicial redress in the United States from any adverse administrative action.

The Agreement further acknowledges that the principle of proportionality is a guiding principle for application of the Agreement.

Under the Agreement a European public authority, namely Europol will assess whether the data requested in any given case is necessary for the fight against terrorism and its financing. Europol will also have to verify that each and every request is tailored as narrowly as possible in order to minimise the amount of data requested. If a request for data does not meet these conditions, no data can be transferred under the Agreement.

Portugal "ideal" for business in Portuguese-speaking African nations – Economy Minister

Portugal is the "ideal partner" for doing business in Portuguese-speaking African nations, since ties between these countries and their former colonial power "have never been so strong", Portuguese Economy Minister José Vieira da Silva said Wednesday at the Access Africa Forum.

"Never have the economic, political and cultural ties between Portugal and Portuguese-speaking African nations been so strong and so positive", Vieira da Silva said at the event, organized by the US embassy and by the Portuguese-Angolan, - Mozambican and – Cape Verdean chambers of commerce.

Vieira da Silva suggested companies should look for three-way partnerships, in which Portugal may act as a go-between. The minister mentioned China's growing role in Africa, stating that "the entry of new and powerful competitors" makes these three-way partnerships "of the utmost importance".

TPN/Lusa

The opinions expressed here are those of our readers and not necessarily of The Portugal News. The editor reserves the right to edit letters or refuse publication. Send your letters, which must include your name and full postal address (even if you wish to remain anonymous on the page), and should be under 300 words, to The Portugal News, Apartado 13, 8401-901 Lagoa. E-mail address: letters@theportugalnews.com

Re. The International Fair

SIR, I would like to write to your paper expressing my thanks and appreciation for this weekend's Algarve Int. Fair. Why?

Because it was well organised. Because the exhibitors gave it their "all", Because there was a great feeling of energy, co-operation and enjoyment in the air, colour, sound, you name it!

I am taking time out to write to you because I have great memories of some of the participants. The dogs (of course!), the owl!, the impossibly tall and colourful person with the important message about the sun (I think), and all the stall holders. Particularly them. Every participant had to pay something for their position in the Fair of course and everyone was unfailingly polite and welcoming to their own arena, and subsequently, extended a welcome to the Fair itself.

Again, I thank everyone taking part, especially the stall holders for all they had to offer us.

PAMELA FRANCIS, By e-mail

Can you help?

SIR, Could you please put this letter in your next edition of **The Portugal News**? I am looking for the owners of a brown and white, (pedigree/mongrel?) bitch dog. She's about two years old, understands English, very good in the home and with other dogs and animals in general. She's medium size floppy ears and, very strange to see on a mongrel dog, she has had her tail docked . She's house-trained very good on and of the lead, very well groomed and fed, so someone must have loved her in the past. She loves a nice long walk and comes to heel when called.

I sent an e-mail to Kiss FM last Friday and it was read out at about 12.30pm on 4 June last week, but I have not received one phone call in response to the e-mail.

Unfortunately due to business commitments I cannot keep her, as I am away quite often. I am taking her to the vets tomorrow to see if she has a micro chip and if she has been spayed. If she hasn't I will pay to have it done, if I can find a home for her.

Failing that I will have to find a vet who will put her down for me as I cannot turn her out on the street. If that happens at least Heidi (as I have called her) will have experienced some love and kindness at the end of her short life and leave this world knowing some one cared about her.

She was found wondering about in the village of Monte Brito just south of Alte about three weeks ago and moved in with me when I got home last week.

I am not on the Net but any one can call my mobile which is 917177854. If they would like to give a home to Heidi.

CHRISTOPHER JELLETT-WALLIS, Alte

Pat Westheimer's column - 29th May

SIR, I totally agree with Pat Westheimer´s comments regarding the Portuguese dog owners who just do not bother to clear up their dog's poo! - in some of the gardens I go to with my dog they have metal boxes of black plastic bags especially for dog poo but still I too see the Portuguese have no interest in cleaning up after their dogs !

However, on another subject which I find disgusting here in Portugal is the habit of the Portuguese spitting on the '*ruas*' together with the noisy clearing of the throat prior to spitting. I also notice it includes both men and women and have now noticed teenagers doing it - it is a Portuguese culture thing ? Whatever it is, it's revolting!

Referring to Pat Westheimer's column entitled 'The Good, The Bad & The Ugly', I too live in the Cascais area and my suggestion to her is to take just a two hour flight to '*minha a terra*' London (preferably Heathrow Airport) and she will have no trouble in finding "black, Asian employees" to serve her, in fact she will find it quite difficult to find a "white British employee". Don't try to change Portugal it is just fine as it is, and after having just returned from a month in London, Cascais is a breath of fresh air!

Moving on, I am not at all surprised at the comment she received from a college graduate regarding Portugal´s economy, you only have to look at **The Portuguese News** and you will see its dominated by football, footballers, trainers etc. especially if there is a match being played in Lisbon that day and then after the match you will have a program to discuss the game for about two hours!

The other channels will be dominated by '*novelas*' in the afternoons and evenings until midnight! If I need to know what is going on in the world I have to refer to either Sky news or BBC world [news]. Wake up Portugal!

LLB, Cascais

Holidaying in Portugal

SIR, I have just returned to the UK after a most enjoyable holiday in Armação de Pêra spoilt only by dogs being allowed to mess the pavements. In England it is an offence to allow a dog to foul pavements, which makes walking most unpleasant and can be a health hazard especially to children.

Why is this nuisance allowed in Portugal?

BRIAN V. NEWMAN, By e-mail

Volcanic Ash

SIR, I am immensely sympathetic with the thousands of air passengers whose flights were recently disrupted by volcanic ash. However, I find it preposterous that Ron Lavery (Letters 8 May) is trying to blame it all on the incompetence of experts.

The fact is that even small amounts of ash can shut down jet engines by blocking crucial air passages; can make airspeed instrumentation inoperative; and can sandblast wind-shields so that pilots can no longer see forwards. Ouch!

Instead of griping about imagined bad decisions, Mr. Lavery should be grateful to the millions of experts who make his life secure and convenient, including engineers who design and build safe aircraft, meteorologists who provide information on natural dangers, air traffic controllers who guide aircraft out of harm's way, and pilots who get us home safely, even when things go wrong. If an aircraft had crashed because expert advice had caused it to fly into ash, Mr. Lavery might have real reason to grouse.

PHILIP VILLAR, Cascais

Thanks to The Portugal News

SIR, Referring to the article concerning the electrostatic problems (that existed for many months) at Terminal 3 in Faro Airport parking. Suddenly the week after publication in **The Portugal News** the problem has been solved ! They simply put a plexi cage over the terminal (like a kind of a Farraday cage) and indeed the problem is solved for the time being, but only as long as there is no rain water or condensation water dripping into this box.

The reason for the electrical incident is probably a minor problem: Is there an earth cable (terra?) existing; is that cable connected ? Has this connection been professionally tested ? Is one of the thin cables inside the machine not squeezed (by putting in a new ticket roll for example) ? etc ... A very close look is necessary as these kind of troubles are always 'hidden' in the smallest corner ever.

GUIDO, By e-mail

Vuvuzelas

SIR, Isn't it time that the TV companies showing the world cup football added subtitles to their commentaries, so that viewers can turn down the sound of the dreadful vuvuzelas and get an idea of what is going on?

It has been said the plastic, monotone, B flat trumpet devices emit 131 decibels at full blast, which seems to be the only way they operate, and can cause hearing loss to unprotected ears. Players are unable to communicate between themselves, and are distracted by this sound, like a stampede of ferocious elephants.

GEORGE RUSH, Faro

Fines for motor-homes parked near beaches

To avoid motor-homes setting up camp in car parks next to beaches in the region of Portimão, the local Town Hall has announced that as of this summer it will issue fines of up to €200 to such vehicles found outside designated areas.

The proposal is believed to have already been passed by a majority and will be put to the vote in a local assembly on June 28th.

Should it be passed it will mean any motor-home owners found spending a night outside designated areas such as camping grounds could face paying a fine of up to €200.

The proposal prohibits "any form of camping outside of legally consigned places", applying the same principal to "vehicles parked up with the intention of staying the night". In practice, the scenarios currently seen in places like Praia da Rocha and Alvor, where dozens of motor-homes gather in car parks near beaches, some of them staying there for long periods, will be eradicated.

Meanwhile it has emerged that two service stations for motor-homes are in the pipeline for Alvor and Mexilhoeira, which could incorporate space for travelling tourists and their vehicles to stay over. However, motor-home owners from the Portimão region have expressed their dismay at such a possibility, claiming that "camping grounds are not the best places for motor-homes" as they want to be "near the sea" and "closer to nature", not "in a place where there are times to come and go".

According to a study carried out by the Committee for Regional Development and Coordination (CCDR) some 37,000 motor-home tourists visit the Algarve every year, based on data gathered in 2006 and 2007.

Estonia's euro currency bid gets EU's green light

Estonia's bid to join the Euro was backed by the European Parliament on Wednesday with 589 votes in favour, 40 against and 52 abstentions.

"This new accession to the Euro shows that the Economic and Monetary Union is fully functional. In parallel to expanding we must also strengthen economic governance however. It is the only way to continue building a strong EMU", said Economic and Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn, also in Monday's debate.

"Estonia's interest in the Euro in these difficult times is the Eurozone's light at the end of the tunnel", said Estonian MEP Ivari Padar (S&D).

The resolution notes that Estonia has fulfilled the criteria as a result of the hard work of its government and people. It also notes the Commission's statement that Eurostat has verified the validity of all relevant statistics supplied by the Estonian authorities.

The Estonian authorities should speed up practical preparations for a smooth changeover and ensure that the Euro's introduction is not used as a pretext for "hidden" price increases, adds the resolution, which also reminds the government not to rest on its laurels, since price stability risks and macroeconomic imbalances always need to be addressed.

Portuguese for Beginners

LESSON 35

Regular verbs in -IR in the Present Simple

⇨ **Put the verbs in brackets in "Presente Simples do Indicativo".**

1. Os maestros ____ (**dirigir**) as orquestras.
2. Normalmente as crianças ____ (**vestir**) e ____ (**despir**) os bonecos.
3. Eu nunca ____ (**consumir**) carne vermelha.
4. *EMPRESA LOCAL* ____ (**despedir**) 100 *TRABALHADORES.*
5. As campanhas publicitárias ____ (**seduzir**) os consumidores. Alguns anúncios ____ (**iludir**) as pessoas.
6. *BOMBA* ____ (**explodir**) *NO METRO.*
7. Nós não ____ (**trair**) os nossos amigos.
8. O futebol e a dança ____ (**atrair**) os jovens.
9. Quem ____ (**partir**) o pão?
10. Os insecticidas ____ (**repelir**) os insectos.
11. Os jovens ____ (**aderir**) rapidamente às novas tendências da moda.
12. Os animadores ____ (**divertir**) os hóspedes.
13. Tu ____ (**sugerir**) outra proposta?
14. Eles são nadadores profissionais e ____ (**competir**) a nível internacional.

⇨ **Match the verbs on the left with the most correct words on the right. Then write complete sentences by conjugating the verb in "Presente Simples do Indicativo" - *the subject is given in brackets*.**

1. gerir (*eles*)	**a)** uma conta
2. sacudir (*eu*)	**b)** um carro novo
3. imprimir (*eles*)	**c)** o livro
4. diminuir (*vocês*)	**d)** uma promessa
5. resumir (*tu*)	**e)** uma empresa
6. poluir (*nós*)	**f)** o comprimido
7. abrir (*você*)	**g)** as cartas
8. engolir (*ele*)	**h)** o bolo
9. cumprir (*eu*)	**i)** os tapetes
10. produzir (*eles*)	**j)** as despesas
11. adquirir (*tu*)	**k)** o ambiente
12. partir (*ela*)	**l)** azeite

Please send your completed exercises with a **STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE**, to me: Emília Rosendo at **The Portugal News** and I will return them corrected. **The Portugal News • Apartado 13 • 8401-901 Lagoa. To view/download past lessons go to: http://www.epaper.theportugalnews.com**

Windows 7 Upgrade vs. Full Version

There are many issues concerning the purchase and installation of Windows 7. The first question that requires an answer is: *"Do I purchase an upgrade or a full version?"*

There are a couple of things that you should take into consideration before you decide to purchase an upgrade or a full version of Windows 7.

Pricing

Various stores sell Windows 7 Upgrade and Full Version Editions, but the actual price difference separating an Upgrade and Full version is essentially the same, no matter where you choose to purchase Windows. For example, the difference between Windows 7 Professional Upgrade and Windows 7 Professional Full is roughly €40.00. Here are Microsoft's prices:

Windows 7 Home Premium

- Upgrade - €120.00
- Full - €180.00

Windows 7 Professional

- Upgrade - €230.00
- Full - €270.00

Windows 7 Ultimate

- Upgrade - €240.00
- Full - €280.00

Windows 7 Anytime Upgrade

- Windows 7 Starter to Windows 7 Home Premium: €75.00
- Windows 7 Starter to Windows 7 Professional: €185.00
- Windows 7 Starter to Windows 7 Ultimate: €205.00
- Windows 7 Home Premium to Windows 7 Professional: €180.00
- Windows 7 Home Premium to Windows 7 Ultimate: €190.00
- Windows 7 Professional to Windows 7 Ultimate: €135.00

As you can see, that's quite a selection that Microsoft has. Which one should you go with? We will discuss this in the next section.

What is an Anytime Upgrade?

Windows 7 Anytime Upgrades are designed to move from one version of Windows 7 to a higher version of Windows 7. For example, the €75.00 Windows 7 Home Premium Anytime Upgrade listed above is designed to upgrade a PC from Windows 7 Starter. If you don't know what Windows 7 Starter is, it's a rare copy of Windows used for netbooks. Next week I will discuss the various versions of Windows 7 in more detail.

If you are upgrading from Windows XP or Windows Vista to Windows 7, an Anytime Upgrade is not for you. Before we go any further, it should be noted that you cannot upgrade from a 32-bit version of Windows to a 64-bit version of Windows. For that, you will need to do a clean install.

What is a Full Version?

A Windows 7 Full version is a full copy of Windows, designed to be installed on a blank hard drive or computer that you do not currently have any version of Windows for. For example, if you build a PC from scratch or purchase a PC with Linux on it.

When you put a Windows 7 Full version disc into your computer's CD/DVD drive and install Windows, it will install the full operating system on your computer. Immediately after Windows is done installing, you enter the serial number and Windows is ready to go.

What is an Upgrade Version?

A Windows 7 Upgrade is a version of Windows designed to upgrade a PC that is currently running Windows XP or Windows Vista to Windows 7 – or a lower version of Windows 7 to a higher version of Windows 7. For example, if you have an older PC that is running Windows XP or Vista, or have Windows 7 Home Premium and would like to upgrade to Windows 7 Ultimate.

When you put a Windows 7 Upgrade version disc into your computer's CD/DVD drive, it will upgrade your current operating system. This can work in several different ways. Here are some examples:

If you currently have Windows XP installed on your PC and insert a Windows 7 Upgrade disc - It will upgrade Windows XP to Windows 7. However, your files, folders, and data will not be upgraded with the rest of the operating system. They will stay on your computer, but they will be moved to a separate location on the hard drive. After the upgrade completes and you have Windows 7 installed, your XP program files will be completely unusable. If you are doing an upgrade like this, you need to back up your files and folders to an external hard drive or pen drive.

Windows 7 Upgrade

If you currently have Windows Vista installed on your PC and insert a Windows 7 Upgrade disc - It will upgrade Windows Vista to Windows 7. You will have the option to carry all of your files, folders, and data from Windows Vista to Windows 7. After the upgrade completes, you will have Windows 7 installed along with all of your data.

If you currently have Windows 7 on your PC and you do a Windows 7 Anytime Upgrade - It will upgrade your Windows 7 version to the higher version. All of your files will be saved and you will not lose any data or program files by doing a Windows 7 to Windows 7 (higher version) upgrade.

Please note, a Full version of Windows is capable of doing everything that an Upgrade version can do. Thus, if you insert a full version disc, you will be able to upgrade from previous versions of Windows.

So what is the Difference Between a Full and Upgrade Version?

Windows 7 Upgrade Version

Pretty much nothing, you can actually do a complete installation of Windows 7 on a blank hard drive, using an upgrade disc. Thus, if you are building a PC, or have a PC running Linux, a Windows 7 Upgrade disc is capable of installing Windows on your computer. Now, although you are able to do this, that's not what these versions were designed to do.

The problem that arises with doing a clean install of Windows using an Upgrade disc is the serial number. Say for example, you are running Linux and want to switch to Windows 7. Upon deleting Linux from your hard drive and doing a clean install of Windows 7 (with an Upgrade disc), you will have Windows 7 completely installed on your PC. However, when you go to activate Windows 7, you will get an error prompt saying something like "This serial number will not work with this version of Windows. In order to use this serial number, you must first upgrade from an existing Windows install."

Windows 7 Full Version

Despite what Windows 7 Upgrades and Windows 7 Full Editions were designed to do, they are both capable of upgrading or full installing. Thus, you can upgrade using a Windows 7 Full disc.

Using that same scenario above, deleting Linux and clean installing Windows 7 – with a Windows 7 Full version, you would not get that error. Windows would activate and you would be good to go.

As far as Windows 7 Upgrade vs. Full is concerned, the major difference is the serial number (activation code) that comes with it. Plain and simply, that's about it. The discs are capable of doing the same thing. You are paying extra for the activation code.

A Windows 7 Upgrade activation code will only work when upgrading from a previous version of Windows. A Windows 7 Full activation code will work under any scenario. Should You Get a Full Version or Upgrade?

That would be purely up to you. If you own a version of Windows XP or Vista, definitely go with the upgrade and save the 60.00 or so euro's. You can simply upgrade your current operating system.

If you want to clean install with an Upgrade disc, this can be done but it means that you have to do a clean installation of Windows XP or Vista, and then Upgrade using the Windows 7 Upgrade disc.

Kurt Pardon • I.T. Director
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NEW PRODUCTS Certikin

Ocean Dreams
Spa Experience

The new Ocean Dreams spas range with pure and elegant shapes tries to achieve the best integration in any environment, both indoor and outdoor. This range is made of different spas dimensions and equipment which go from 76 cm high spas perfect to be installed indoor, to spas for 6 people with 5 seats and 1 bed, equipped with 45 jets to enjoy all the hydrotherapy benefits.

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Heat pumps are the most efficient system to heat up the pool water, since they take advantage of the external energy, in the ratio of 1 Kw of energy consumption to 5 Kw of output.
Certikin presents a new heat pump range, equipped with a high performance battery. They also include a titanium heat exchanger and have filtration control. The ABS top design, avoids possible corrosion problems.

To find an authorised agent in your area please contact
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NORTH

Daily

CALDAS DA RAINHA
Museu José Malhoa - Paintings, sculptures, drawings, watercolours and ceramics in temporary and permanent exhibitions - Parque D. Carlos I - T. 262 831 984

CALDAS DA RAINHA
Municipal Museum - Since (1985) the construction of António Duarte Atelier and Museum, the Local Council of Caldas da Rainha has been constructing one of the most important nucleus of Portuguese Sculpture of the 20th century. The exhibit, conservation, study and divulgation of the collections is divided between the three museums - T. 262 840 280

ESPINHO
Dance Show The Michael Jackson 'Tribute Dance' - Casino de Espinho daily - 20h30 (dinner) and 22h30 (show) - €20 (dinner-show, Sunday to Thursday) €32.50 (dinner-show, Friday and Saturday) - T. 227 335 500 - www.solverde.pt

GUARDA
Museu Municipal de Arte Moderna Abel Manta - The collection includes works by Carlos Botelho, Júlio Resende, Menez, Paula Rego, Vespeiro, António Dacosta and many others - Open: Tuesday to Sunday from 10h00 to 12h30 and from 14h00 to 17h00 - Free entrance - Rua Direita, 45, Gouveia - T. 238 493 648

PORTO
Casa da Música - Guided visits from Mon-Sun: 10h30; 11h30; 12h30; 15h00; 16h00; 17h00; 18h00 - Tickets can be bought until 10 minutes before visit - Price: €2; Free for children under 12 - T. 220 120 214 - Avenida da Boavista, 604-610 - www.casadamusica.com

PORTO
Serralves Foundation - Visits to the exhibitions - Sat: 17h-20h; Sun: 12h-13h - to the architectonic spaces (museum & Casa de Serralves) Sun: 15h-16h - Visits to the park; Sun: 11h-12h - Visits are free on the purchase of an entrance ticket to the museum - Location: Rua D. João de Castro, 210 - T. 226 156 584 -www.serralves.pt

June 20

PORTO
Promenade Concert performing Mendelssohn's Concert for Violin and Orchestra - 11h30 - Coliseu do Porto - Rua Passos Manuel, nº 137 - T. 223 394 940 - Tickets: See bottom page

Until June 27

GUIMARÃES
Exhibition by Fernando Brito - Palácio Vila Flor- Price: €1 (€0.50 w/ discount) - Av. D. Afonso Henriques, 701 - T. 253 424 700 - www.ccvf.pt

Until June 30

VILA REAL
Exhibition 'Roman women in the museum's coins' - Museu de Arqueologia e Numismática de Vila Real - 259 320 340

Until July 3

CASTELO BRANCO
Exhibition 'Bridging the gap between Visual Arts, Architecture and Interior Design' by António Dias Ribeiro - Governo Civil Castelo Branco - Monday to Friday from 14h00 to 18h00 - www.adr-designart.com

July 6

PORTO
Concert by Melody Gardot promoting her album 'My One and Only Thrill' at Sala Suggia of Casa da Música - 21h30 - Avenida da Boavista, nº 604-610 - T. 220 120 214

July 16

VILA NOVA DE GAIA
Placebo in concert - Festival Marés Vivas '10 - Tickets: See info at bottom of page

July 17

VILA NOVA DE GAIA
Ben Harper in concert - Festival Marés Vivas '10 - Tickets: See info at bottom of page

August 20-23

VIANA DO CASTELO
Romaria da Srª da Agonia (Religious Street Festivities) - Procession starting at Bom Jesus Chapel

CENTRE

Daily

CASCAIS
Cascais Cultural Centre - Concerts, shows, exhibitions, & other events. - shops, coffee shop & terrace - Open: 10h00-18h00 (Closed Mon) - Av. Rei Humberto II de Itália - T. 214 848 900

CASCAIS
Sea Museum 'Rei D. Carlos' - Rua Júlio Pereira de Mello - 10h-19h; closed Mon & holidays - T. 214 825 400

ESTORIL
Casino Estoril - Praça José Teodoro dos Santos - T. 214 667 700 - Info.estoril@estoril-sol.com

LISBON
Mercado da Ribeira - On the riverfront, this popular market is the Coolest Place in Town - Crafts, events, gastronomy • Av. 24 de Julho

LISBON
National Coach Museum - Set in a 17th century riding school, with a varied collection of royal coaches, uniforms and portraits of the royal family - Open from 10h00 to 17h30 (Closed Mondays) and public holidays) - Praça Afonso de Albuquerque - T. 213610850

LISBON
Oceanarium - Spectacular design by Peter Chermayeff, it is one of Europe's biggest oceanarium - Park of Nations - 10h00 to 18h00 - T. 218 917 002

LISBON
Influxcontemporary - A museum dedicated to African Contemporary Art - Open from Wednesday to Saturday from 14h00 to 19h00 - Rua Fernando Vaz, 20B - T. 918 501 234 - iwww.influxcontemporary.com

SANTARÉM
Visit the Casa-Museu Braamcamp Freire on Rua Braamcamp Freire - T. 243 304 480/1

Until June 21

LISBON
Exhibition by Pierre Coulibeuf 'Inside the labyrinth' - Museu Colecção Berardo, Arte Moderna e Contemporânea - Praça do Império - 213 612 878

Until June 27

ALMADA
Painting Exhibition by Duarte Geraldes - Teatro Municipal de Almada - Av. Prof. Egas Moniz - T. 212 739 360

June 27

LISBON
Concert by Orchestre Poly-Rythmo de Cotonou (Benin) - 19h00 - Open Air Amphitheatre of Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation - Avenida de Berna, 45-A - T. 217 823 000 - www.gulbenkian.pt

Until Jun 30

LISBON
Lisbon Festivities '10: Street Animation! - Street animation and dancing throughout the city - Pick up a programme at the Lisbon City Hall.

Until July 31

LISBON
Painting Exhibition 'Outras Coisas, naturezas mortas e temas românticos' (Other things, still-life and romantic themes) by Joana Salvador at Galeria 111 on Rua Dr. João Soares, 5B - T. 217 819 907 - www.111.pt

Until August 8

LISBON
Paintings and Watercolours Exhibition by Constant Le Breton (1895-1985) - More than sixty works by the French painter can be seen for the first time in Portugal in this monographic exhibition - Gallery of Temporary Exhibitions on the main building, first floor - Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation - Av. de Berna, 45-A - T. 217 823 000

Until Sep 19

LISBON
Exhibition by the Brazilian brothers Gustavo and Otávio Pandolfo known as Os Gémeos (The Twins) 'For who lives there, the sky is there' - Museu Colecção Berardo, Arte Moderna e Contemporânea - Praça do Império - T. 213 612 878

www.theportugalnews.com

SOUTH

Daily

LAGOS
Charity Shop in Amádena
Charity Shop in what was old supermarket on the square past 'Brody' and 'O Poço' restaurants - LAPS - Lagos Animal Protection Society - T. 282 687 334

Daily

SILVES
Exhibition of artwork by Hilary Cunningham - Vivenda Rosal Pedreira - Watercolour, pen ink & wash, oil & pastel. Prior to visit, please call 282 332 190 or 917 169 053

Every Monday

LAGOS
Free concert The New Orleans Jazzband at Tivoli Hotel - 20h30 - Details 935 086 365

June 19

LAGOS
Concert Jazz com Todos (Jazz with All) by JRP Jazz Fusion Trio at Centro Cultural de Lagos - Renato Madeira (contrabass), James Mellos (piano), Paulo Rosa (drums) - T. 282 094 158 - www.jazzcomtodos.tk

TAVIRA
Popular Saints Traditional Festival (Street Animation) - 21h - Rua Dr. Manuel Trindade, Rua Tavira de Durango , Stº Estêvão Church Square

Jun 19 to Jul 18

PADERNE
Exhibition 'An Exuberant Sense of Freedom' is on display at Galeria Corte Real - To get there: From the protected village of Paderne follow the signs 'Corte-Real' - The gallery is open Thu through Sun from 11h00 to 17h00 TM: 912 737 762 / 918 980 199 - www.corterealarte.com

June 20

LAGOS
Youth Choirs - Cultural Centre Patio - 21h30 - T. 282 770 450

ALMANCIL
Indian Cultural Evening (19.00 till late) - For ticket reservations, enquiries or further information please do not hesitate to contact us directly on 916 917 941 or 914 439 444.

June 22

PORTIMÃO
New Orleans Jazzband at Mariner's Bar on Rua Santa Isabel at 20h30 - Details 935 086 365

June 22 to 29

TAVIRA
Popular Saints Traditional Festival (Street Animation) - 21h - Streets around the town

Until June 24

ALMANCIL
Painting Exhibition by the renowned Spanish artist Juan Martinez at Centro Cultural São Lourenço - T. 289 395 475 - ccsl@iol.pt

Until June 25

SINES
Exhibition of the Sines Museum archaeologic collections - Sines Museum - Organization: Museu de Sines - T. 269 632 237 - www.sines.pt

June 26

TAVIRA
Tavira Jazz & Wine Fest - 21h00 - Barril Beach

TAVIRA
Almadrava Anniversary Gala - 20h30 - Hotel Vila Galé

Until June 28

TAVIRA
Almadrava Handicraft Exhibit - 19h00-24h00 - Mercado da Ribeira

Until June 30

LAGOA
Exhibition by Willem Sneijers - Convento S. José - Rua Joaquim Eugénio Júdice - T. 282 380 434

June 30

ALMANCIL
Piano Concert by Pal Lindtner Eide - São Lourenço Cultural Centre - 19h30 - T. 289 395 475

Until July 1

LOULÉ
Painting Exhibition 'things get damaged, things get broken' by Paulo Guerreiro - Tea Room and Art Gallery Chá D'Arte - D. Pedro I Square, Ground Floor, nº 5-6 - It will also be on display during the MED Festival

Until July 3

LAGOS
Exhibition of Watercolour and Oil Paintings by Clive Cook at Cachoa Restaurant on Quatro Estradas, at Luz - Tel: For viewing and Restaurant times 282 782 822 - Mobile: 916 720 981 - www.clivecookpaintings.com

Until July 31

SERPA
Exhibition 'Relógios mecânicos de 1910 a 1970' (Mechanical Clocks from 1910 to 1970) – Museu do Relógio (Clock Museum) - T. 284 543 194

Until August 1

LAGOS
Art Display by Ivan Franco & Kathy Hinde, Joanna Callaghan, Johan Grimonprez, Jorge La Feria, Luís Alegre, Mark Lewis, Matthias Müller & Christoph Girardet, Miguel Soares, Patricia Betancur, Paula Roush, Rui Toscano, Rui Valério and Tracey Moffatt - Centro Cultural de Lagos on Rua Lançarote de Freitas, nº 7 - T. 282 770 450

Until September 29

ESTÓI
Exhibition by René Bertholo - Roman Ruins of Milreu

December 10

LISBON
Lady Gaga on her 'Monster Ball Tour' - 20h30 - Pavilhão Atlântico

December 10

LISBON
Lady Gaga on her 'Monster Ball Tour' - 20h30 - Pavilhão Atlântico - Book now! - PDM TRAVEL - Rua Vitor Costa e Silva 15 Loja F, 8600-764 Lagos - T. 282 782 078 - info@pdm-travel.com

www.theportugalnews.com

PREVIEW

June 18,19,20 - Sítio das Fontes in Estômbar (a municipal park next to Arade river) - Lagoa Jazz Festival organized by the Câmara Municipal de Lagoa and Production of 'Ao Vivo Espectáculos e Eventos' - Times of the concerts 22h00, opening of the space at 19h00 - Performing are Michel Portal & Yaron Herman, Sextet of Amina Figarova and Trio of Edmar Castaneda - www.lagoajazz.com

June 27 - Almancil - Bollywood BBQ Lunch And Family Fun Day In Aid Of The New ASCA Care Home (11h00 - 16h00) - There will be a variety of activities on the relevant dates ranging from Henna Tattoos, Fashion Shows, Fashion Accessories and Soft Furnishings, which promise to be fun-filled days for all the family - These are just a few of the events that we are planning for this year. We look forward to your support and trust that we will see you there - O Pelicano The Indian Take Away Restaurant - For ticket reservations, enquiries or further information please do not hesitate to contact us directly on 916 917 941 or 914 439 444.

June 26 to July 31 - Exhibition 'ambiente' (environment) - A collective response to the concerns for our environment - Grupo de Artistas SintrArte situated behind the Café Moinho Verde, Pátio do Zézinho, A3, Rua da Fonte, Almoçageme, Colares, Sintra - info@sintra-arte.com - www.sintra-arte.com

For more events, see our Club and Community Pages - pp26-27 and our Classifieds - pp 58-62

Events may be cancelled, delayed or fail to live up to their billing. Send us your events to copy@theportugalnews.com by Tuesday before publication.

TICKETS: Most tickets are available at FNAC and Worten outlets across the country, ATM machines, Abreu agencies, El Corte Inglès, Casa Viola, Ticketline or at the event itself on the night. Websites: www.pavilhaoatlantico.pt / www.ticketline.pt / www.blueticket.pt / Phone numbers: Ticketline 707 234 234 / 707 780 000

ALGARVE

SBC FORUM ALGARVE
TEL: 289 887 212

17 JUN-23 JUN

1
The Time Traveler's Wife
Rachel McAdams, Eric Bana
14.20-16.45-19.15-21.40 (00.15 Fri & Sat)
The Princess and the Frog
Animation PV
(10.10 Sat & Sun)
2
StreetDance
Nichola Burley, Richard Winsor
(11.00 Sat & Sun) 14.25-16.40-18.55
Robin Hood
Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett
21.10 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
3
She's Out of My League
Jay Baruchel, Alice Eve
(12.30 Sat & Sun) 15.00-17.20-19.45-22.05 (00.30 Fri & Sat)
4
The Back-Up Plan
Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin
14.30-16.50-19.10-21.30 (23.50 Fri & Sat)
Iron Man 2
Robert Downey Jr, Don Cheadle
(10.50 Sat & Sun)
5
Sex and the City 2
Sarah Jessica Parker, Kristin Davis
(12.00 Sat & Sun) 15.00-18.00-21.00 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
6
Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
Emma Thompson, Rhys Ifans
(12.10 Sat & Sun) 14.35-17.00-19.25
Iron Man 2
Robert Downey Jr, Don Cheadle
21.50
7
Marmaduke PV
Owen Wilson, Lee Pace
(10.20-12.55 Sat & Sun)
The Bad Lieutenant
Nicolas Cage, Eva Mendes
22.00 (00.35 Fri & Sat)
8
Astro Boy
Animation PV
(10.15-12.50 Sat & Sun) 15.05-17.15-19.35
City Island
Andy Garcia, Julianna Margulies
21.45 (00.25 Fri & Sat)
9
Prince of Persia
Jake Gyllenhaal, Gemma Arterton
(13.50 Sat & Sun) 16.20-18.50-21.20 (23.55 Fri & Sat)
Urmel aus dem Eis
Animation PV
(10.30 Sat & Sun)

CASTELLO LOPES CINEMAS ALGARVESHOPPING
TEL: 707 220 220

17 JUN-23 JUN

1
Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
Emma Thompson, Rhys Ifans
13.15-15.50-18.20
A Nightmare on Elm Street
Jacki Earle Haley, Kellan Lutz
21.50 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
2
She's Out of My League
Jay Baruchel, Alice Eve
13.30-16.00-18.40-21.25 (23.55 Fri & Sat)
3
The Time Traveler's Wife
Rachel McAdams, Eric Bana
13.10-16.05-18.50-21.20 (23.50 Fri & Sat)
4
Marmaduke PV
Owen Wilson, Lee Pace
13.00-15.00-17.00-19.00-21.35 (23.40 Fri & Sat)
5
How to Train Your Dragon 3D
Animation PV
13.40-16.20
Iron Man 2
Robert Downey Jr, Don Cheadle
18.30-21.00 (23.30 Fri & Sat)
6
The Back-Up Plan
Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin
13.20-16.10-18.45-21.40 (00.05 Fri & Sat)
7
Prince of Persia
Jake Gyllenhaal, Gemma Arterton
12.55-15.30-18.10-21.10 (23.45 Fri & Sat)
8
Sex and the City 2
Sarah Jessica Parker, Kristin Davis
12.45-15.40-18.35-21.30 (00.25 Fri & Sat)
9
Robin Hood
Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett
12.50-15.35-18.25-21.15 (00.10 Fri & Sat)

CASTELLO LOPES CINEMAS PORTIMÃO
TEL: 707 220 220

17 JUN-23 JUN

1
Sex and the City 2
Sarah Jessica Parker, Kristin Davis
12.40-15.30-18.25-21.20 (00.20 Fri & Sat)
2
Prince of Persia
Jake Gyllenhaal, Gemma Arterton
13.20-16.00-18.50-21.50 (00.15 Fri & Sat)
3
Urmel aus dem Eis
Animation PV
13.30-15.15-17.05-19.00
Robin Hood
Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett
21.10 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
4
Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
Emma Thompson, Rhys Ifans
13.10-15.50-18.40
A Nightmare on Elm Street
Jacki Earle Haley, Kellan Lutz
22.00 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
5
Marmaduke PV
Owen Wilson, Lee Pace
12.50-15.10-17.10-19.10-21.40 (23.40 Fri & Sat)
6
She's Out of My League
Jay Baruchel, Alice Eve
13.00-15.40-18.30-21.30 (23.50 Fri & Sat)

Castello Lopes Cinemas
Tel: 707 220 220
www.castellolopescinemas.com

UCI Cinemas
Tel: 707 23 22 21
www.uciportugal.pt

Zon Lusomundo Cinemas
Tel: 707 24 63 62
www.zonlusomundo.pt

OV = Original Version
PV = Portuguese Version

Film Classification

The Back-Up Plan - M/12
She's Out of My League - M/12
Marmaduke - M/12
The Time Traveler's Wife - M/12
Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang - M/6
Sex and the City 2 - M/16
Astro Boy - M/4
Prince of Persia - M/12
StreetDance 3D - M/12
A Nightmare on Elm Street - M/16
Iron Man 2 - M/12
How to Train Your Dragon - M/6

M/4 - Four years and over
M/6 - Six years and over
M/12 - 12 years and over
M/16 - 16 years and over
M/18 - 18 years and over

Title: The Back-Up Plan
Genre: Comedy | Romance
Stars: Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin, Michaela Watkins, Eric Christian Olsen
Synopsis: After years of dating, Zoe has decided waiting for the right one is taking too long. Determined to become a mother, she commits to a plan, makes an appointment and decides to go it alone. On the day of her artificial insemination, Zoe meets Stan - a man with real possibilities. Trying to nurture a budding relationship and hide the early signs of pregnancy becomes a comedy of errors for Zoe and creates confusing signals for Stan.

Title: She's Out of My League
Genre: Comedy | Romance
Stars: Jay Baruchel, Alice Eve, Mike Vogel, T.J. Miller, Nate Torrence
Synopsis: Kirk, an average guy, can't believe his luck. Though he's stuck in a seemingly dead-end job as an airport security agent, against all odds, Molly, a successful and outrageously gorgeous babe, falls for him. Kirk is stunned. So are his friends, his family and even his ex-girlfriend. Now he has to figure out how to make the relationship work, even though he'd be the first to admit she's totally out of league.

Title: Marmaduke
Genre: Comedy | Family
Voices: Owen Wilson, George Lopez, Steve Coogan, Kiefer Sutherland, Fergie
Stars: Lee Pace, Judy Greer, David Walliams, William H. Macy
Synopsis: Marmaduke, the world's most lovable Great Dane, leaps from comic strip fame (appearing in 600 newspapers in over 20 countries) to big screen stardom.
The "Duke" is living the good life with the Winslow family, including beleaguered dad Phil, wife Debbie, their three children, and feline pal Carlos. But when Phil uproots the clan from Kansas to California, Marmaduke finds his life turned upside-down.
But fitting in with his new four-legged friends - and a potential romantic interest - isn't always easy for a super-sized teenage dog.

SATURDAY 19/06/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
10.00 Saturday Kitchen.
11.30 The Delicious Miss Dahl.
12.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
12.15 Cash in the Celebrity Attic.
13.00 Bargain Hunt.
13.45 Murder, She Wrote.
14.30 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
17.20 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
17.40 All New Total Wipeout - The Awards.
18.40 Doctor Who.
19.30 The National Lottery: In It to Win It 2012.
20.20 Casualty.
21.10 Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow.
21.40 BBC News; Weather.
22.00 **FILM**: Firewall (2006); National Lottery Update.
23.40 Friday Night with Jonathan Ross; Weatherview.
00.45 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
12.00 **FILM**: Blessed (2008).
13.20 Escape to the Country.
14.20 Royal Ascot.
16.45 Live Athletics.
19.00 Mary, Queen of Shops.
20.00 Gareth Malone Goes to Glyndebourne.
21.00 What Makes a Great Soprano?
22.00 Match of the Day: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
22.50 **FILM**: Rescue Dawn (2006).
00.50 **FILM**: Zidane: A 21st-Century Portrait (2006).
02.20 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries.
10.25 The Lakes.
10.55 This Morning: Saturday.
11.55 News and Weather.
11.59 London Weather.
12.00 World Cup Live.
14.30 **FILM**: Murder on the Orient Express (1974).
17.00 **FILM**: Johnny English (2003).
18.35 London Tonight; Weather.
18.45 ITV News and Weather.
19.00 World Cup Live.
21.30 James Corden's World Cup Live.
22.05 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
22.30 World Cup Highlights.
23.30 **FILM**: Cadillac Man (1990).
01.15 The Zone; ITV News Headlines.
03.20 October Road.
04.05 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 Triathlon ITU World Championship Series.
07.30 World Sport.
08.00 The Morning Line.
08.50 T4: Friends.
09.20 T4: Friends.
09.45 T4: The Hoosiers: Video Exclusive.
09.50 T4: The Album Chart Show: Usher Special.
10.25 T4: Get Him to the Greek: T4 Movie Special.
10.55 T4: Big Brother.
12.30 T4: The Hollyoaks Music Show.
13.00 T4: Smallville.
13.55 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket, Ayr and Redcar.
16.05 Come Dine with Me.
16.40 Come Dine with Me.
17.10 Come Dine with Me.
17.40 Come Dine with Me.
18.10 Come Dine with Me.
18.40 Channel 4 News.
19.10 **FILM**: My Big Fat Greek Wedding (2002).
21.00 Big Brother.
22.00 Jason Manford: Live.
23.10 **FILM**: Star Trek: The Motion Picture (1979).
01.40 Big Brother: Live.
03.50 What About Brian.
04.30 Demolition Day.
05.25 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Sunrise.
07.00 Milkshake!
10.00 The Gadget Show Shorts.
10.05 Fifth Gear.
10.35 Red Bull Air Race.
11.35 Britain's Greatest Machines with Chris Barrie.
12.35 **FILM**: Sherlock Holmes: The Hound of the Baskervilles (2000).
14.35 **FILM**: Dune (1984).
17.05 **FILM**: Rooster Cogburn (1975).
19.10 Five News.
19.15 NCIS.
20.10 CSI: NY.
21.10 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.
22.05 Law & Order.
23.05 CSI: Miami.
00.05 SuperCasino.
04.05 European Seniors Tour Golf.
04.55 The Family Recipe.
05.00 Hana's Helpline.
05.10 The Milkshake! Show.
05.35 Thomas & Friends.
05.45 Roary the Racing Car.

SUNDAY 20/06/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.00 The Andrew Marr Show.
10.00 The Big Questions.
11.00 The Politics Show;
12.10 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
14.30 EastEnders.
16.00 Junior Apprentice.
17.00 Lifeline.
17.10 Songs of Praise.
17.45 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
18.00 Countryfile.
19.00 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
22.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
22.25 The Impressions Show with Culshaw and Stephenson.
22.55 **FILM**: Hart's War (2002); Weatherview.
00.55 Sign Zone: Grow Your Own Drugs.
01.25 Sign Zone: Holby City.
02.25 Sign Zone: Children's Emergency.
02.55 Sign Zone: Modern Masters.
03.55 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
10.00 Something for the Weekend.
11.30 Monk.
12.15 Live MotoGP.
14.15 Live Athletics.
17.10 Rowing.
18.05 **FILM**: Chocolat (2000).
20.00 Wild Night In.
22.00 FIFA Match of the Day
22.30 Mock the Week.
23.00 **FILM**: Life (1999).
00.40 **FILM**: Kill the Man (1999).
02.05 BBC News.
03.55 The Super League Show.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 Coronation Street.
11.20 News and Weather.
11.29 London Weather.
11.30 This Morning: Sunday.
12.30 **FILM**: Columbo: Undercover (1994).
14.30 World Cup Live.
17.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot.
18.00 London Tonight; Weather.
18.15 ITV News and Weather.
18.30 You've Been Framed and Famous!
19.30 Coronation Street.
20.00 Lewis.
22.00 World Cup Rock 'n' Goal Years.
22.30 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
22.45 World Cup Highlights.
23.45 **FILM**: Land of the Dead (2005).
01.25 The Zone; ITV News
02.30 Motorsport UK.
03.20 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 The Hoobs.
07.00 Catching the Impossible.
07.55 The Grid.
08.20 Formula Ford Championship.
08.50 T4: Shooting Mark Ronson.
09.20 T4: The Hills.
09.50 T4: Hollyoaks.
12.25 T4: Big Brother's Little Brother.
13.35 T4: Glee.
14.35 T4: Friends.
15.40 T4: The Simpsons.
16.40 Deal or No Deal.
17.25 Scrapheap Challenge.
18.30 Channel 4 News.
19.00 River Cottage.
20.00 Come Dine with Me.
21.00 Big Brother.
22.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man.
22.50 **FILM**: Failure to Launch (2006).
00.40 Big Brother: Live.
02.50 **FILM**: Black and White (1999).
04.30 What's Fufu?
04.35 Hill Street Blues.
05.25 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Sunrise.
07.00 Milkshake!
10.00 Shake!
11.10 Family Food Fight.
11.40 Chinese Food in Minutes.
12.10 **FILM**: Two Mothers for Zachary (1996).
14.05 **FILM**: Swept from the Sea (1997).
16.05 **FILM**: My Girl (1991).
18.05 Five News.
18.10 **FILM**: Legally Blonde 2: Red, White and Blonde
20.00 **FILM**: Practical Magic (1998).
22.05 **FILM**: The Reaping (2006).
00.05 NCIS.
01.00 SuperCasino.
04.05 European Challenge Tour Golf.
04.55 The Family Recipe.
05.00 Hana's Helpline.
05.10 The Milkshake! Show.
05.35 Thomas & Friends.
05.45 Roary the Racing Car.

MONDAY 21/06/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Crimewatch Roadshow.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather.
10.30 Cowboy Trap.
11.15 Cash in the Attic.
12.00 BBC News; Weather.
12.10 Regional News; Weather.
12.15 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
14.40 BBC News.
14.45 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
17.10 Wimbledon 2010.
18.00 BBC News; Weather.
18.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather.
19.00 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News.
20.00 Fake Britain.
20.30 Panorama.
21.00 The Royle Family.
22.00 BBC News.
22.25 Regional News; Weather.
22.35 The Graham Norton Show.
23.20 **FILM**: Raising Helen (2004); Springwatch Weatherview.
01.15 Sign Zone: The Genius of Design.
02.15 Sign Zone: Museum of Life.
03.15 Sign Zone: Food Fighters.
04.00 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
10.35 Wimbledon.
11.30 Daily Politics.
12.00 Wimbledon 2010.
20.00 Today at Wimbledon.
21.00 Mary, Queen of Shops.
22.00 Match of the Day: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
22.30 Newsnight; Weather.
23.20 Tribal Wives.
00.20 When Romeo Met Juliet.
01.20 BBC News.
04.00 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
13.30 ITV News and Weather.
13.55 London News and Weather.
14.00 Dickinson's Real Deal.
15.00 Midsomer Murders.
17.00 The Chase.
18.00 London Tonight; Weather.
18.30 ITV News and Weather.
19.00 World Cup Live.
21.30 James Corden's World Cup Live.
22.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
22.30 London News and Weather.
22.35 World Cup Highlights.
23.35 Total Emergency.
00.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines.
02.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
03.25 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 The Hoobs.
07.00 Big Brother's Little Brother.
07.55 Big Brother.
08.50 The 5 O'Clock Show with Kimberley Walsh and Stephen Mulhern.
09.50 Deal or No Deal.
10.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.
11.05 Friends.
11.30 Friends.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 Coach Trip.
12.30 Come Dine with Me.
13.00 Come Dine with Me.
13.30 Come Dine with Me.
13.55 Come Dine with Me.
14.25 Come Dine with Me.
14.55 Cook Yourself Thin.
15.25 Countdown.
16.10 Deal or No Deal.
17.00 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
18.00 The Simpsons.
18.30 Hollyoaks.
19.00 Channel 4 News.
20.00 Dispatches: How to Save #100billion - Live.
21.00 Chasing the Cumbrian Killer.
22.00 Big Brother.
23.15 Music on 4: Being N-Dubz.
23.45 Alan Carr: Chatty Man.
00.30 Fifa in Africa: The 2010 Legacy.
01.30 Big Brother: Live.
05.30 Win My Wage.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Extreme Fishing with Robson Green.
13.45 Neighbours.
14.15 Home and Away.
14.50 I Own Britain's Best Home: Flying Visit.
15.05 **FILM**: Killer Flood: The Day the Dam Broke (2003).
17.00 Five News; Weather.
17.30 Neighbours.
18.00 Home and Away.
18.25 Live from Studio Five.
19.30 How Do They Do It? Five News Update.
20.00 Police Interceptors; Five News at 9.
21.00 Extraordinary People: The Tiniest Girl in the World.
22.00 Crimes That Shook the World.
23.00 **FILM**: Reservoir Dogs (1992).
01.00 SuperCasino.
04.05 Wildlife SOS.
04.30 Wildlife SOS.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 The New Tomorrow.
05.35 Michaela's Wild Challenge.

TUESDAY 22/06/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Crimewatch Roadshow.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather.
11.00 Cowboy Trap.
11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather.
12.15 Bargain Hunt.
13.00 BBC News; Weather.
13.30 Regional News; Weather.
13.45 Wimbledon 2010.
18.00 BBC News; Weather.
18.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather.
19.00 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
22.00 BBC News.
22.25 Regional News; Weather.
22.35 Imagine.
23.25 The Graham Norton Show; Weatherview.
00.15 Sign Zone: See Hear.
00.45 Sign Zone: Halcyon River Diaries.
01.45 Sign Zone: Raymond Blanc: Kitchen Secrets.
02.15 Sign Zone: Food Fighters.
03.00 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
10.30 Yesterday at Wimbledon.
11.30 Daily Politics.
12.00 Wimbledon 2010.
15.00 The Budget 2010.
17.15 Wimbledon 2010.
20.00 Today at Wimbledon.
21.00 Tribal Wives.
22.00 Match of the Day: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
22.30 Newsnight; Weather.
23.20 Wild Night In.
01.20 BBC News.
03.05 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
13.30 ITV News and Weather.
13.55 London News and Weather.
14.00 Dickinson's Real Deal.
14.30 World Cup Live.
17.00 The Chase.
18.00 London Tonight; Weather.
18.30 ITV News and Weather.
19.00 Emmerdale.
20.00 Piers Morgan On.
21.00 The Bill.
22.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
22.30 London News and Weather.

Channel 4
22.35 World Cup Highlights.
23.35 October Road.
00.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines.
02.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
03.25 ITV Nightscreen.

06.15 The Hoobs.
06.40 Big Brother's Little Brother.
07.05 Big Brother.
08.15 Frasier.
08.45 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
09.45 Deal or No Deal.
10.30 Everybody Loves Raymond.
11.00 Friends.
11.30 Friends.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 Coach Trip.
12.30 Come Dine with Me.
13.00 Come Dine with Me.
13.30 Come Dine with Me.
13.55 Come Dine with Me.
14.25 Come Dine with Me.
14.55 Cook Yourself Thin.
15.25 Countdown.
16.10 Deal or No Deal.
17.00 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
18.00 The Simpsons.
18.30 Hollyoaks.
19.00 Channel 4 News.
20.00 Gok's Fashion Fix.
21.00 Inside Nature's Giants: The Big Cats.
22.00 Big Brother.
23.10 The Good Wife.
00.05 The Poker Lounge.
01.05 Big Brother: Live.
03.30 KOTV Boxing Weekly.
04.00 Beach Volleyball.
04.55 Formula Ford Championship.
05.20 The Grid.
05.45 World Sport.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Extreme Fishing with Robson Green.
13.45 Neighbours.
14.15 Home and Away.
14.50 I Own Britain's Best Home: Flying Visit.
15.05 **FILM**: The Brooke Ellison Story (2004).
17.00 Five News; Weather.
17.30 Neighbours.
18.00 Home and Away.
18.25 Live from Studio Five.
19.30 Family Food Fight; Five News Update.
20.00 Build a New Life in the Country; Five News at 9.
21.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.
22.00 CSI: Miami; Five News Update.
23.00 CSI: NY.
00.00 Cricket on Five.
00.55 SuperCasino.
04.05 Wildlife SOS.
04.30 Wildlife SOS.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 The New Tomorrow.
05.35 Michaela's Wild Challenge.

WEDNESDAY 23/06/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Crimewatch Roadshow.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather.
11.00 Cowboy Trap.
11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather.
12.15 Wimbledon 2010.
13.00 BBC News; Weather.
13.30 Regional News; Weather.
13.45 Wimbledon 2010.
14.15 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
17.30 Wimbledon 2010.
18.00 BBC News; Weather.
18.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather.
19.00 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News.
20.00 The Inspector Lynley Mysteries.
21.30 Outnumbered.
22.00 BBC News.
22.25 Regional News; Weather.
22.35 The National Lottery Draws.
22.45 Children's Emergency.
23.15 Match of the Day: 2010 FIFA World Cup; National Lottery Update.
00.15 Inside Sport: The Last Taboo; Weatherview.
00.50 Sign Zone: DIY SOS.
01.20 Sign Zone: Mary, Queen of Shops.
02.20 Sign Zone: The Delicious Miss Dahl.
02.50 Sign Zone: Food Fighters.
03.35 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
10.30 Yesterday at Wimbledon.
11.30 Daily Politics.
13.00 Wimbledon 2010.
20.00 Today at Wimbledon.
21.00 Tribal Wives.
22.00 QI.
22.30 Newsnight; Weather.
23.20 What Makes a Great Soprano?
00.20 The Royal Academy Summer Exhibition 2010: A Culture Show Special.
01.20 BBC News.
03.40 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
13.30 ITV News and Weather.
13.55 London News and Weather.
14.00 Dickinson's Real Deal.
15.00 Midsomer Murders.
17.00 The Chase.
18.00 London Tonight; Weather.
18.30 ITV News and Weather.
19.00 World Cup Live.
21.30 James Corden's World Cup Live.
22.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
22.30 London News and Weather.
22.35 World Cup Highlights.
23.35 Spain: Paradise Lost.
00.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines.
02.30 **FILM**: The Amityville Horror (1979).
04.30 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.15 The Hoobs.
06.40 Big Brother's Little Brother.
07.05 Big Brother.
08.15 Frasier.
08.45 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
09.45 Deal or No Deal.
10.30 Everybody Loves Raymond.
11.00 Friends.
11.30 Friends.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 Coach Trip.
12.30 Come Dine with Me.
13.00 Come Dine with Me.
13.30 Come Dine with Me.
14.00 Come Dine with Me.
14.25 Come Dine with Me.
14.55 Cook Yourself Thin.
15.25 Countdown.
16.10 Deal or No Deal.
17.00 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
18.00 The Simpsons.
18.30 Hollyoaks.
19.00 Channel 4 News.
20.00 Come Dine with Me: Wags Special.
21.00 Big Brother.
22.00 Desperate Housewives.
23.00 The Big Bang Theory.
23.30 My Name Is Earl.
00.00 My Name Is Earl.
00.30 Music on 4: The Album Chart Show Spotlight.
00.45 Music on 4: 4Play: Deftones.
01.00 Big Brother: Live.
05.15 Life Class: Today's Nudes.
05.40 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Extreme Fishing with Robson Green.
13.45 Neighbours.
14.15 Home and Away.
14.50 I Own Britain's Best Home: Flying Visit.
15.05 **FILM**: Always and Forever (2008).
17.00 Five News; Weather.
17.30 Neighbours.
18.00 Home and Away.
18.25 Live from Studio Five.
19.30 Daring Raids of World War Two; Five News Update.
20.00 Mary Magdalene - Saint or Sinner? Five News at 9.
21.00 NCIS.
22.00 K-Ville.
22.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.
23.55 Poker.
00.55 SuperCasino.
04.05 Wildlife SOS.
04.30 Wildlife SOS.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 The New Tomorrow.
05.35 Michaela's Wild Challenge.

THURSDAY 24/06/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Crimewatch Roadshow.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Regional News.
11.00 Cowboy Trap.
11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather.
12.15 Bargain Hunt.
13.00 BBC News; Weather.
13.30 Regional News; Weather.
13.45 Wimbledon 2010.
18.00 BBC News; Weather.
18.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather.
19.00 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
22.00 BBC News.
22.25 Regional News; Weather.
22.35 Question Time.
23.35 This Week; Holiday Weatherview.
00.25 Sign Zone: Panorama.
00.55 Sign Zone: Countryfile.
01.55 Sign Zone: Cracking Antiques.
02.25 Sign Zone: Food Fighters.
03.10 Sign Zone: Food Fighters.
03.55 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
10.30 Animal Park.
11.00 Lifeline.
11.10 Wimbledon 2010.
15.25 CBBC.
17.50 Wimbledon 2010.
20.00 Today at Wimbledon.
21.00 Gareth Malone Goes to Glyndebourne.
22.00 Mock the Week.
22.30 Newsnight; Weather.
23.20 Match of the Day: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
23.50 The Culture Show.
00.50 BBC News.
03.55 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
13.30 ITV News and Weather.
13.55 London News and Weather.
14.00 Dickinson's Real Deal.
14.30 World Cup Live.
17.00 The Chase.
18.00 London Tonight; Weather.
18.30 ITV News and Weather.
19.00 Emmerdale.
19.30 William and Harry - The Brother Princes: Tonight.
20.00 Emmerdale.
20.30 Coronation Street.
21.00 Taggart.
22.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
22.30 London News and Weather.
22.35 World Cup Highlights.
23.35 Isle of Wight Festival Highlights.
00.35 The Zone; ITV News Headlines.
02.35 British Touring Car Championship Highlights.
03.55 ITV Nightscreen.

Add your events
Event Calendar
go to www.theportugal news.com click on the icon and add YOUR event or see what's on

Channel 4
06.25 The Hoobs.
06.50 Big Brother's Little Brother.
07.20 Big Brother.
08.15 Frasier.
08.45 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
09.45 Deal or No Deal.
10.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.
11.00 Friends.
11.30 Friends.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 Coach Trip.
12.30 Come Dine with Me.
13.00 Come Dine with Me.
13.30 Come Dine with Me.
13.55 Come Dine with Me.
14.25 Come Dine with Me.
14.55 Cook Yourself Thin.
15.25 Countdown.
16.10 Deal or No Deal.
17.00 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
18.00 The Simpsons.
18.30 Hollyoaks.
19.00 Channel 4 News.
20.00 Location, Location, Location.
21.00 Big Brother.
22.00 Kerry and Me.
23.05 Skins.
00.10 Dirty Sexy Money.
01.05 Big Brother: Live.
04.45 Dispatches: How to Save #100billion.
05.40 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Extreme Fishing with Robson Green.
13.45 Neighbours.
14.15 Home and Away.
14.50 The Family Recipe.
15.00 **FILM**: Charms for the Easy Life (2002).
17.00 Five News; Weather.
17.30 Neighbours.
18.00 Home and Away.
18.25 Live from Studio Five.
19.30 Fifth Gear; Five News Update.
20.00 Britain's Greatest Machines with Chris Barrie; Five News at 9.
21.00 **FILM**: Before You Go (2002).
23.00 Forensic Files.
23.30 Cricket on Five.
00.30 SuperCasino.
04.05 Wildlife SOS.
04.30 Wildlife SOS.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 The New Tomorrow.
05.35 Michaela's Wild Challenge.

FRIDAY 25/06/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Crimewatch Roadshow.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather.
11.00 Cowboy Trap.
11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather.
12.15 Bargain Hunt.
13.00 BBC News; Weather.
13.30 Regional News; Weather.
13.45 Wimbledon 2010.
14.30 Match of the Day Live: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
17.15 Wimbledon 2010.
18.00 BBC News; Weather.
18.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather.
19.00 Crop to Shop: Jimmy's Supermarket Secrets; BBC News; Regional News.
20.00 EastEnders.
20.30 Inspector George Gently.
22.00 BBC News.
22.25 Regional News; Weather.
22.35 Friday Night with Jonathan Ross.
23.35 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws.
23.45 Match of the Day: 2010 FIFA World Cup.
00.25 **FILM**: Black Eagle (1988); Weatherview.
02.05 Sign Zone: An African Journey with Jonathan Dimbleby.
03.05 Sign Zone: Welcome to Lagos.
04.05 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
10.30 Yesterday at Wimbledon.
11.30 Daily Politics.
12.00 Wimbledon 2010.
20.00 Today at Wimbledon.
21.00 Are You Having A Laugh? TV and Disability.
22.00 Glastonbury 2010.
22.30 Newsnight; Weather.
23.00 Glastonbury 2010.
02.00 **FILM**: My Name Is Modesty: A Modesty Blaise Adventure (2003).
03.15 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
13.30 ITV News and Weather.
13.55 London News and Weather.
14.00 Dickinson's Real Deal.
15.00 Midsomer Murders.
17.00 The Chase.
18.00 London Tonight; Weather.
18.30 ITV News and Weather.
19.00 World Cup Live.
21.30 James Corden's World Cup Live.
22.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
22.30 London News and Weather.
22.35 World Cup Highlights.
23.35 **FILM**: Village of the Damned (1995).
01.15 The Zone; ITV News Headlines.
03.15 Touching Evil.
04.05 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.25 The Hoobs.
06.50 Big Brother's Little Brother.
07.20 Big Brother.
08.15 Frasier.
08.45 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
09.45 Deal or No Deal.
10.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.
11.00 Friends.
11.30 Friends.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 Coach Trip.
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13.00 Come Dine with Me.
13.25 Come Dine with Me.
13.55 Come Dine with Me.
14.25 Come Dine with Me.
14.55 Cook Yourself Thin.
15.25 Countdown.
16.10 Deal or No Deal.
17.00 Lenny Henry's 5 O'Clock Show.
18.00 The Simpsons.
18.30 Hollyoaks.
19.00 Channel 4 News.
19.30 Unreported World.
20.00 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.
21.00 Big Brother.
22.00 The IT Crowd.
22.35 Big Brother.
23.05 Stand Up For the Week.
23.55 Music on 4: CTRL Student Tour.
00.10 Music on 4: Mercury Prize Sessions.
00.30 Music on 4: 4Play: Lissie.
00.45 Big Brother: Live.
03.55 This Week's 4Music Top 20.
05.45 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Extreme Fishing with Robson Green.
13.45 Neighbours.
14.15 Home and Away.
14.50 I Own Britain's Best Home: Flying Visit.
15.05 **FILM**: Honeymoon with Mom (2006).
17.00 Five News; Weather.
17.30 Neighbours.
18.00 Home and Away.
18.25 Live from Studio Five.
19.30 Zoo Days; Five News Update.
20.00 Extraordinary People: Hayley - The 96-Year-Old Schoolgirl; Five News at 9.
21.00 The Mentalist.
22.00 CSI: NY.
22.55 Grey's Anatomy.
23.55 Cops in Crisis.
00.15 SuperCasino.
04.05 Motorsport Mundial.
04.30 Wildlife SOS.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 The New Tomorrow.
05.35 Michaela's Wild Challenge.

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Answers next week.

Easy

			4		3	6	5	
6	3		9		5	8		
				7				
9	6					3		2
	1						7	
7		8					6	9
				1				
		3	7		4		8	6
	9	7	6		2			

Medium

				1	8	2		
		9	2			4		5
							8	9
9					5	8		6
8		6	3					4
3	7							
4		8			3	7		
		2	6	4				

Hard

				8		4		5
	1				4			6
5						2		
	3			2	6			
		1		5		8		
			1	7			3	
		7						2
3			6				5	
9		4		1				

Last weeks solutions:

6	2	5	7	1	4	3	8	9
7	8	9	3	6	2	5	1	4
4	3	1	8	9	5	6	2	7
9	6	2	4	8	7	1	5	3
1	4	7	6	5	3	2	9	8
3	5	8	9	2	1	4	7	6
8	1	6	5	4	9	7	3	2
2	9	3	1	7	6	8	4	5
5	7	4	2	3	8	9	6	1

6	7	3	5	4	8	1	9	2
9	5	2	6	1	7	8	3	4
8	1	4	9	3	2	6	7	5
5	4	8	3	6	1	9	2	7
2	9	1	4	7	5	3	8	6
7	3	6	2	8	9	4	5	1
4	2	7	1	9	3	5	6	8
3	6	5	8	2	4	7	1	9
1	8	9	7	5	6	2	4	3

8	4	9	3	5	1	6	2	7
3	2	5	8	6	7	4	9	1
6	7	1	2	9	4	3	5	8
4	6	7	5	2	3	8	1	9
1	8	2	9	4	6	5	7	3
9	5	3	7	1	8	2	4	6
2	1	8	4	3	9	7	6	5
5	3	6	1	7	2	9	8	4
7	9	4	6	8	5	1	3	2

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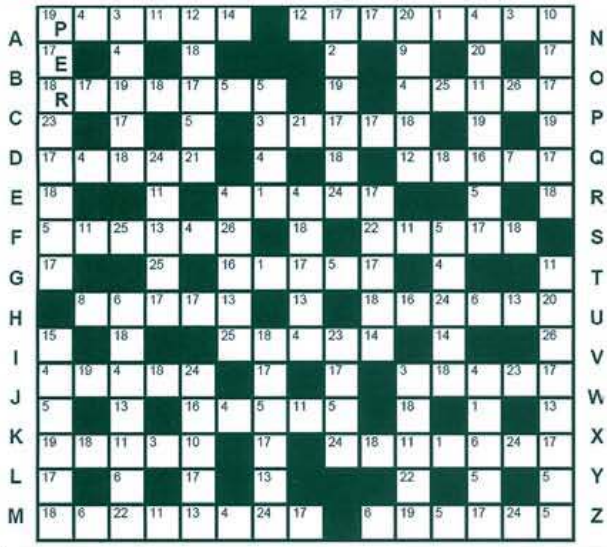
CODEWORD

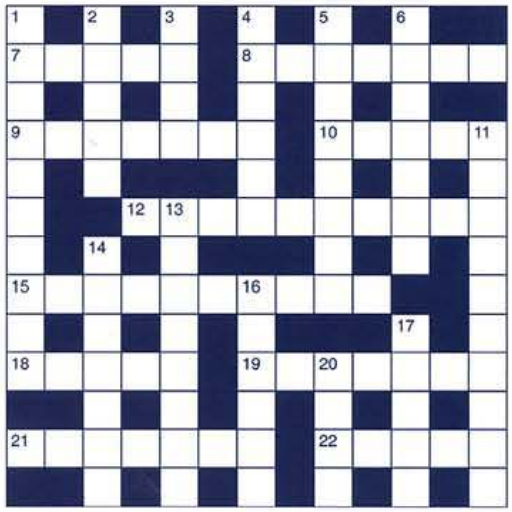
Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. Decipher the code to fill in the crossword. Three letters are already in place and the check-box and letters either side will help you keep track of progress.

(Right: Last week's solution)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 E	18 R	19 P	20	21	22	23	24	25	26



PRIZE CROSSWORD 1065



ACROSS

7. Lift (5)
8. Paltry (7)
9. Red (7)
10. Balance (5)
12. Maternity (10)
15. Efface (10)
18. Wander (5)
19. Word opposite in meaning to another (7)
21. Ardent (7)
22. Unsullied (5)

DOWN

1. Thriving (10)
2. Necessary (5)
3. Cure (4)
4. Sew (6)
5. Dishearten (8)
6. Caller (7)
11. Love (10)
13. Remote (8)
14. Clearness (7)
16. Nomad (6)
17. Go in (5)
20. Pleat (4)

A free computer clean-up will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution to crossword nº 1065 opened next Thursday. Solutions to: The Portugal News Crossword Nº 1065, Apt. 13, 8401-901 Lagoa. Be sure to enclose your name, address and phone number.

WORDSEARCH

Find the hidden words within the square. The word may start anywhere and go in any direction.

E	R	Q	D	J	Z	O	M	O	M	N	O	T	E	S
D	U	R	S	G	D	Y	I	Q	G	G	O	M	U	K
I	I	A	W	R	W	R	N	A	D	W	L	L	C	J
S	H	W	N	M	E	L	B	A	B	O	R	P	M	I
A	S	M	G	E	R	S	H	B	R	A	C	E	T	F
E	R	E	H	T	E	B	U	H	P	F	X	A	O	L
Y	G	C	S	D	C	I	S	O	C	B	B	O	A	A
S	E	O	T	V	T	I	O	P	R	S	C	A	B	T
H	A	R	D	Y	F	Y	G	Y	O	T	N	W	R	M
B	R	D	W	F	I	X	L	L	A	B	E	S	A	B
S	H	E	A	R	E	D	U	O	A	Y	Y	D	D	U
W	T	R	R	K	I	T	T	Y	K	A	N	J	E	H
Y	Q	E	D	L	I	M	M	A	B	A	S	H	E	D
D	B	D	E	O	I	S	P	O	T	T	E	D	Z	D
A	N	E	N	R	D	A	J	S	G	Q	J	F	K	U

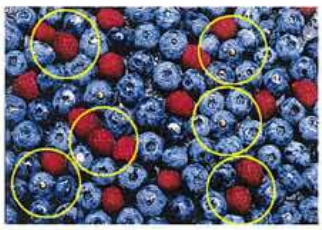
BRACE, ABASHED, ORDERED, ERECT, STAND, ASIDE, IMPROBABLE, NOTES, RAFFISH, SHEARED, ABSOLUTION, HARDY, GEAR, WARDEN, BASEBALL, CHEERIO, THERE, TROUSERS, SPOTTED, ABRADE, KITTY, FLAT

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

See if you can find 6 differences between the two photos.

Last week's solutions
Across: 1 Penetrate; 8 Ore; 9 Prohibition; 11 Battles; 12 Treat; 13 Astral; 15 Weapon; 17 Donor; 18 Replace; 20 Independent; 22 Son; 23 Earnestly.
Down: 2 Err; 3 Trill; 4 Amidst; 5 Epistle; 6 Contemplate; 7 Penitence; 10 Outstanding; 11 Blandness; 14 Abridge; 16 Proper; 19 Pence; 21 Nil.
Last weeks winner: **Mrs Margaret Brett, Silves**

Last week's solution:



PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

Three bedroom villa in countryside location, Porches

This week's featured property is set in the tranquil countryside of Porches. It is a two-floor, three bedroom villa built on a 6,000 square metre plot of land.

Set in a peaceful location this country property comprises three bedrooms, three bathrooms (two of which are ensuite) plus a guest bathroom, a large living/dining area, a spacious kitchen with integral appliances and various terraces on all floors. Entered via electric gates and a stone driveway, the property has the added bonus of a large plot of 6,160 square metres and a 10 x 5 swimming pool, with children's area and outdoor shower. The pool area has additional rooms for storage and pump house, as well as toilet facilities and possibilities for a small kitchenette. It would make an excellent home and is close to several amenities, such as cafés, grocery stores, restaurants, a supermarket and a golf course. It is located near the International School of Porches and is being sold for €480,000.

For more information on this property, please contact Abode on 282 356 865, email leohbraun@hotmail.com or visit their website www.abode-pt.com.

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Benfarras
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Ref 1680 – Price € 698,000 (open to offer)

The Old Village - Vilamoura
High quality modern design and finish , 3 bed detached villa in the wonderful Old village of Vilamoura with private swimming pool & garden, offers A/C, solar panels, false ceiling with down lights double glazing.
Ref 2954 – Price €735,000

Vilamoura
Golf front NEW 2 bedroom apartment, quality finish, large terraces with fabulous views, quiet location, worth a visit.
Ref 2822 – Price € 295,000

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vilagente@mail.telepac.pt
www.vendavilla.com

Vilamoura
Attached villa situated in the industrial area, composed of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with dining area, kitchen, storage and terraces. Garage for 2 cars, office and warehouse. Construction area approximately 223 sq.m.
Ref: V12647 Price: € 175.000,00

Vilamoura
One bedroom apartment located in a quiet area, composed of 1 bathroom, lounge w/dining area, kitchen and terrace. Furnished and equipped. Exterior parking area. Communal sw.pool and garden area. Tennis court. Const. area - 58 sq.m.
Ref: A1384 Price: € 130.000,00

Vilamoura
Set in a complex with swimming pool and garden, semi-detached villa, composed of 1 bathroom, lounge with fireplace, kitchen, storage area and terraces. Furnished and equipped.
Ref: V12324 Price: € 245.000,00

Vilamoura
With excellent sea and Marina views, 2 bedroom apartment composed of 2 bathrooms, lounge w/dining area, equipped kitchen and terrace. Storage and parking space in the basement. Exterior and interior swimming pools. Const. area - 100 sq.m.
Ref: A1383 Price: € 490.000,00

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€480,000.

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Tel: 281 370 277
Fax: 281 370 761

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www.estealgarve.com

North of Vila Nova de Cacela
Sweet algarvian cottage with wooden beams, recently renovated, w/ an area of 41.40 m2, fireplace, dining area, kitchenette, sitting/sleeping area, shower room. Fenced garden w/ nice privacy & large variety of plants & trees (70 m2) and old building/garage of 30 m2 being opposite of the cottage.
EA 080 CVNC – € 99.000

Apartment Cabanas
High quality, brand new 2 bedroom apartment (78 m2) situated on the ground floor w/ large 58,50 m2 terrace, video entrance camera, electric shutters, prepared for central heating, air con.. Garage. Located within an urbanization w/ access to 4 swimming pools & walking distance to Cabanas, lagoon & beach.
033 ACAB – € 170.000

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Exceptional property cosisting of a 6 bedroom villa built in the rustic style, plus separate cottage, with 2 bedrooms, surrounded by approx. 14.000 m2 of land with beautiful garden, double garage, swimming pool (60 m2), situated approx. 4 kms west from Tavira.
EA 064 FTAV – € 790.000

Fazfato / Vila Nova de Cacela
This property which is in need of complete renovation could be a delightful cottage with front south facing patio, located in a pretty row of Algarvian cottages with sea view, located 8 km north of Vila Nova de Cacela, close to Monte Rei golf course. Sahred bore hole. Mains water close by.
EA 035 RFF – € 50.000

Pedras da Rainha - Cabanas
Detached 2 bedroom villa on a total plot of 840 m2 , consisting of a lovely garden w/ lawn, palm trees & pretty flowers, in an attractive holiday complex w/ access to 2 swimming pools (adult & children), reception, pool bar, restaurant, tennis courts, green ball & boat transfer to beach, within waking distance to Cabanas centre & lagoon. 3 kms to Tavira. To be sold furnished & equipped.
EA 37 VPR – € 215.000

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Balaia Golf Village
Magnificent 1 bedroom apartment, in the privat condominium Balaia Golf Village in Albufeira. Gardens, swimming pools, tennis courts and a golf course all in the same condominium. A few minutes from the beach. Feel the difference, BOOK YOUR VISIT!
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Price: € 900 month (Long term rental)

Olhos D'Água – Surfal
Excellent 1 bedroom apartment situated in a very quiet residential area and just a few minutes walk from Falésia beach. This apartment is located in the ground floor and has its own entrance. Apartment with good areas and a spacious storage room in the basement of the building.
Ref.: 122261080-15
Price: € 115.000

Boliqueime
Excellent T2 apartment in the quiet "Vila de Boliqueime". Composed by: one living-room, kitchen, two bedrooms (one is a suite with private bath), one WC, balcony with country view, common wide terrace with BBQ and common swimming pool. This apartment is equiped w/ heated floor.
Ref.: 122261080-16
Price: € 195.000

S. Brás de Alportel
Excellent 2 bedroom apartment, ground floor, situated in a residential area in S. Brás de Alportel. It has a parking place in the garage and storage room on the roof. Excellent price, very good business opportunity.
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Loulé
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Price Reduced: € 550.000

Estói
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Price: € 195.000

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Vilamoura: 289 301 294

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Ref: LHV-937 Price: € 1.200.000

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Unique, modern, split-level villa with pool & guesthouse offering privacy & breathtaking views towards the coast. Covered area: 360 m2, plot: 2140 m2. enjoying Good quality construction.

Ref: LHV-1063 Price: € 1.200.000

Santa Catarina
Lovely 4-bedroom quinta (265 m2) with many typical Portuguese features. Swimming pool & beautiful gardens. Plot of 9840 m2. Spacious double-height living area. Easy road access. Good value for money.
Ref: LHV-866 Price: € 590.000
(Reduced from € 799.000)

Tavira
Luxurious 4 bedroom villa (430 m2 covered area) with swimming pool on preferred location in Tavira. Large living room with adjacent dining area, Italian design kitchen, high quality building materials and finishing. Plot of 1074 m2 enjoying country views.
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Near São Brás
Offers invited! Outstanding 3-bedroom villa (177 m2) with pool & garage (41 m2) set on a 2500 m2 plot offering far-reaching views. Tastefully chosen materials, under floor heating, air-conditioning. Worth a viewing.
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Price: € 280,000

VILAMOURA
A102735
Excellently located near Marina & Falésia beach, approx. 10 mins walk. 97 sq.m. of constr. area. Fully equipped kitchen, two bathrooms. A/c. Two good size bedrooms w/ wordrobes. Balcony overlooking garden & sw. pool. Underground parking space for 1 car & 1 storage in basement. Excellent letting potential.
Price: € 205,000

VILAMOURA
V102739
Charming three bedroom detached villa, on a very quiet & residential area near Pinhal Golf Course. Lovely 560 sq.m. plot w/ approx. 150 sq.m. constr. area. Living room w/ fireplace, open plan kitchen. Sitting room on 1st floor being used as library. Furnished & equipped. Alarm syst. Basement transformed into games room. Landscaped garden w/ sw. pool & a lovely BBQ area. South/West facing w/ excellent sun exposure.
Price: € 475,000

VILAMOURA
V102734
Luxurious 4 bedroom villa in cul-de-sac, walking distance to Marina. 1.050 sq.m. plot w/ approx. 478 sq.m. constr. area. 4 en-suite bedrooms + office. Large living & dining room w/ gas fireplace. Fully fitted kitchen. A/c. Central heating. Alarm. Surround sound, central vacuum. Solar panels. Large basement w/ 170 sq.m., garage for several cars, games room & bathroom. Garden w/ sw. pool & BBQ area & putting green. Very secluded.
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Make the most of climbers in containers

If you need height and colour on your patio and you have a couple of large pots to hand, there's still time to plant a mixture of climbers to cover an obelisk or wigwam this summer to provide you with a riot of colour.

A sweet pea

Morning glory

Sweet peas are the most obvious choice and are still available in garden centres. Just a small pot of them should give you enough plants to cover canes or other supports and when they flower you should cut them regularly to give you the same scent and colour indoors as you'll have outside.

With sweet peas, the more you pick, the more prolific the flowering will become. Don't let them run to seed or the plant takes that as an indicator that flowering is over and will stop producing more blooms.

Some clematis work really well in pots and good garden centres can recommend suitable types for the size of the pot and the area you have to cover. Clematis which build up a framework of branches, such as the early and mid-season hybrids, are the easiest to train, but take note of the height they'll reach before investing.

Good specimens for pots include C. 'The President', which has deep purple blue flowers from late spring to early autumn, growing to 3m and C. 'Edith', which bears large white flowers and deep red anthers, growing to 2m .

Some climbing annuals can provide a blaze of colour during the summer months, including black-eyed Susan (Thunbergia alata), which is perennial in its native Africa, but an annual here. Its stems wrap around supports to reach 2.5m and it produces pretty yellow or orange flowers with a chocolate eye from summer through to autumn. Put it in a sheltered spot, shaded from the hottest sun.

If you have a sunny corner and you want a tropical feel to your patio, invest in the canary creeper (Tropaeolum peregrinum), which produces bright yellow flowers with large upper petals that look like a bird's wings. it will flower all summer and can reach up to 4m tall.

Of course, no obelisk would be complete without nasturtiums, those sizzling flowers in shades of acid yellow, orange and red, which can ideally be placed near the kitchen so you can add the peppery leaves and flowers to salads. Look for the climbing varieties such as T. majus 'Jewel of Africa' and T. majus 'Tall Single Mixed' to give you columns of colour all summer long.

Other climbers which are ideal for containers include Morning Glory (Ipomoea tricolor), a half-hardy annual with large, trumpet-shaped flowers in blue or purple which will reach 1.5m in a pot, Clematis 'Evening Star' and 'Kingfisher', as well as Trachelospermum jasminoides 'Variegatum', one of the best scented white climbers, which bears showers of starry white flowers which turn cream as they age.

When choosing a climber for the patio, select a container at least 45cm deep and wide. Plants always to better in larger pots. Bear in mind that one container thoughtfully positioned can serve as a focal point. It you want more than one pot, plant matching or toning plants in containers grouped around it, but not masking the climber itself. Make sure the grouped pots are similar in style and colour.

Hannah Stephenson

A clematis vine

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Volvo S60 set to turn heads

With a softer and more rounded appearance, Volvo S60 is a new car for a new era. The saloon is more stylish, more entertaining and more intelligent on the road.

Volvo has never been a company to follow in the footsteps of BMW, Audi or Mercedes. The Swedish firm's larger cars might have been positioned there or thereabouts in the same affordable executive market sectors, but the similarities ended there.

With the German firms running away with the market share between them and the need for Volvo to be more than a minor player in the all-important premium market, everything about this new S60 has been shifted up a gear.

In typical Volvo style there was never any question of the S60 becoming another German executive class clone, however. What we have is a more stylish, more entertaining to drive and more intelligent car than its predecessor. For fans of the brand this will be important, as it's these attributes that will make the investment worthwhile.

A new car for a new era, then. With new owners and a changing market sector, it's fitting that this S60 saloon presents a different Volvo corporate 'face' to the world. A softer and more rounded appearance, it's a policy that's already worked well on facelifted C30 and C70 models. Comedians will have to find something else to mock - all traces of Volvo's boxy past have been eradicated in the new S60.

The same is true on the inside, with the car's cabin displaying a softer and more sophisticated look. It's also telling that the car's centre console is angled towards the driver - a clear sign that the S60 has been designed to appeal to the keen driver. Elsewhere it's a case of expanding on recent design themes, with the switchgear, ergonomics and seat comfort being that bit better than the competition. For all the S60's newness, some things never change.

You will notice more legroom in the back, though. A little better than its predecessor and some rivals, which does much to confirm the S60's position as a versatile choice for executives - there won't be an issue over adults feeling the pinch in the rear.

Staying with the sensible aspects of the car, it should come as no surprise to learn that Volvo has ratcheted up the active and passive safety elements of the car. Following on from the XC60, the S60 also comes as standard with City Safety, a system that detects obstacles when driving at low urban speeds and alerts the driver. If no action is taken the car will attempt to brake. We've all been in the situation when, crawling in traffic, a pedestrian steps out in front of you. Now you have a much better chance of avoiding a collision.

Select the optional Driver Support pack and you can add to this level of protection with pedestrian detection via front mounted cameras, plus adaptive cruise control and a plethora of driver warning devices and braking assistance that works together with all the active aids to bring the car to a stop (or at least apply maximum braking force at higher speeds) to minimise the consequences of driver inattention or the acts of other road users. The camera and clever computer can even distinguish between adults, children and dogs running across the road.

Granted, you hope to never have to use such systems, but they've now reached a stage where they can be trusted, which is testament to Volvo's persistence in the field of car safety.

In the context of being a new and improved Volvo from a driving and ownership perspective, the car is no less impressive. Much work was done to improve driver appeal - prototypes were driven on demanding UK roads and the help of touring car veteran John Cleland no less was enlisted to sharpen performance levels.

Engines have been improved to deliver more power and the seemingly impossible reduced fuel consumption and CO2 emissions. The result is a rounded package that is streets ahead of its predecessor on the road, yet delivers a refined, premium-level cabin ambience worthy of comparison with its German rivals.

Being a car positioned in the affordable executive sector, it's the S60's 161 horsepower 'D3' diesel that will steal the limelight. Punchy, refined and frugal, its flexible and willing nature compliments the S60's character. The turbo petrol and performance oriented V6 stretch the car's abilities but there's never any suggestion that the car struggles with the extra power. And if you want more performance plus decent economy, the D5 202 horsepower diesel should prove more than adequate.

With its high levels of standard equipment, stand-out styling, class-leading safety technology and levels of driver enjoyment and refinement not seen from a Volvo in some time, this second-generation S60 offers the Volvo faithful and new converts a credible alternative to a purchase from the 'Big Three' Germans firms.

Source: PA/TPN

Model: Volvo S60 D3 SE, range starting from Ä36,990
Engine: 2.0 litre turbo diesel developing 161bhp
Transmission: Six speed manual transmission, driving the front wheels.
Performance: Top speed: 220 kph, 0-100kph: 9.2 seconds.
CO2 emissions: 139 g/km
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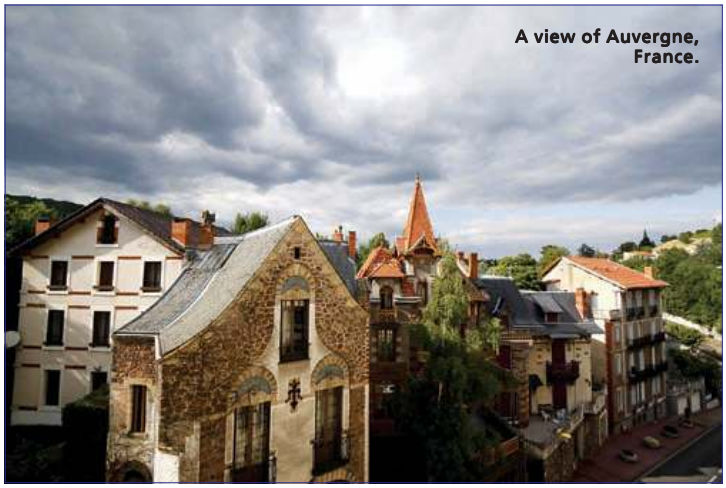
Caravan camping in rural France


A view of Auvergne, France.

Go camping in style and explore this beautiful area of France.

"Where are you going?" asked a bright-eyed Nicolas behind the Avis car-rental counter at Lyon airport.

"Good question," I answered, as I dug out the map of France from my handbag, along with my French phrasebook and dictionary.

However, I wasn't sure how far my high-school French was going to get me this weekend.

"Here," I said, after I'd managed to open the map and find the triangle that represented our destination. His eyebrows rose - not a good sign. "In French we call this 'dans le trou du monde...'

"It's not very polite, but..."

I'd lost him at 'du monde' but my travelling companion picked up the French quicker than I did - we had just been told we were heading to the middle of nowhere.

We are from New Zealand - known to many as Middle Earth - and you can't get much further away than that. However, now we were faced with driving on the wrong side of the road as well as having to decipher French road signs - all in the name of a holiday.

Did I really want to be in the middle of nowhere, somewhere in the French countryside? Was this what I'd signed up to when I agreed to take a green weekend break? It was too late to back out now, so in typical Kiwi fashion, we set off from Lyon airport with our destination broadly agreed as the middle of nowhere.

As navigator, armed with pages of Google Maps, I directed my partner to drive west for three hours, bypassing an industrial metropolis at both Saint Etienne and Clermont Ferrand, before following instructions to take a "slight right after 0.4km, turn left after 0.7km, and turn right after 0.2km".

We went down a French country road with cow paddocks on one side and a field filled with vibrant yellow sunflowers on the other - no road names or villages in sight.

As we continued towards the middle of nowhere, stone houses came into view, overflowing flower baskets dazzling with colour hung from windowsills and there in front of us - nearly 200 miles from Lyon Airport - was a field of roulottes - better known in the UK as gypsy-style caravans. We had arrived.

"Bonjour" roared the voice of our host from behind his desk. A tall Frenchman with a twinkle in his eye handed over the key, linen for our bed and two pages of instructions. His English was much better than our French but we needed stick-figure drawings to communicate.

"Jehanne," he said, pointing to a rough sketch of the paddock, "is blue."

Jehanne was nestled next to Isabeau and just down the path from Guinevere - all of which were beautifully painted, wooden gypsy wagons. This was camping without canvas.

Canvas Holidays has introduced these cosy, bohemian caravans on four parks in the heart of rural France: Correze, in the Limousin; Vienne in Poitou-Charentes; Gers in the Midi Pyrenees and Allier in Auvergne. All are a day or two's drive from Calais.

Marketed to holidaymakers who want a close-to-nature lifestyle, these sites are a fantastic way to discover small villages, traditional markets and the smell of freshly-baked baguettes.

The Basilique Saint-Sauveur, Rocamadour village.

Situated only a short drive from motorways and sleeping up to five, the roulottes are ideal for young families and couples looking to relax in total peace and quiet or to stop en-route to break a long

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The river by Chateau de Chenonceaux, at Chenoneaux.

journey.

Jehanne, our caravan in the wide open spaces of Allier, gave us a warm welcome. She was beautifully presented inside and out, and her wooden walls and floors gave us an 'up close and personal with nature' feeling.

Better equipped than our London flat, Jehanne offered impressive cooking facilities (compact stove top, microwave, toaster, kettle, pots and pans, fridge/freezer), five-star hotel bathroom facilities and even a flush toilet - almost unheard of in the camping world.

Shuttered windows and portholes opened out to the greenery beyond - providing country surroundings in which to bask in glorious sunshine. Also, matching deck chairs and umbrella provided a reprieve from the heat of the sun - which greeted us in the morning and stayed with us throughout the day.

Deep in the middle of nowhere, it was peaceful, tranquil and idyllic.

Although roulottes are equipped with bedding, washing and cooking facilities, you still need to be prepared. Our nearest village was nine miles away, squashing any romantic dreams I had of walking down the country lane to buy warm croissants for breakfast.

Perhaps an entrepreneurial local will start biking around in the mornings with a basket filled with French pastries, but until that happens, stock up!

Besides a plentiful supply of breakfast cereals, bread and milk, you'll need some entertainment - particularly for the kids.

The complex has a children's playground complete with flying fox, petanque court, table tennis and swimming pool.

There are walks to explore and a stream nearby for a spot of fishing but some board games, craft books and a football or Frisbee to throw around will ensure your holiday is stress-free.

For a day out, there is the eco-friendly Vulcania theme park in the Parc Naturel Regional des Volcans d'Auvergne (Regional Nature Park of the Volcanoes of Auvergne). Within 10 miles of Clermont-Ferrand, L'Aventure de la terre offers interactive education rides and activities such as the Grand Geyser, Planet Observer, the Magical Odyssey and the Earth's Rage.

As a young couple, free of responsibility, we left Blackberries and laptops at home and took only books and newspapers to read between lie-ins and afternoon naps.

With a hire car for the weekend, we explored the Middle Ages town of Montlucon on the banks of the River Cher with its 14th century Notre Dame church and castle.

In Moulins - the smaller capital of the Allier department, on the banks of the Allier River - picturesque views of the town's cathedral are offered. Saint-Pourcain-sur-Sioule, with its selection of boulangeries and patisseries, was also lovely.

Further afield, within day-trip distance, was the Val de Sioule - the Valley of the Sioule River. With its deep gorges, rolling hills, medieval villages and array of spectacular hillside castles, not to mention gastronomic delights, the region attracts outdoors enthusiasts - canoeing, horseriding, mountain biking - and culture lovers - museums, art galleries, craft shops.

Our Auvergne days were spent relaxing in sunshine, sipping French wine, gorging smelly cheese and sampling the bohemian lifestyle.

Will I ever return to a true camping holiday? For now, I'm definitely a convert for camping without canvas.

Key facts

:: Best for: Walking and outdoor activities.

:: When to go: Climate generally mild, so spring and early autumn are particularly pleasant.

:: Don't miss: The spa towns, such as Le Mont Dore and La Bourboule. Also, lace making in Le Puys.

:: Need to know: This is traditional France, with beautiful landscapes and no big holiday resorts.

:: Don't forget: The famous songs, and Cevennes mountains, immortalised by Robert Louis Stevenson in Travels With A Donkey.

A Roulotte.

Travel facts

Anne Graham was a guest of Canvas Holidays, which offers seven nights' self-catering from June 1 in a roulotte de campagne (sleeping five) from £465/€559, including midweek Dover-Calais ferry crossings for car and passengers.

Peak-season prices in August start at £932/€1,120. Canvas travel pack includes holiday guide to living and driving in Europe, and detailed France map with roulotte locations.

Canvas deducts £50/€60 from the package price of those who book accommodation-only breaks, and also arranges budget flights from various regional airports.

Canvas Holidays - tel: 00 44 (0)845 268 0827 and see: www.canvasholidays.co.uk.

Anne Graham paid £276/€332 for two return Easyjet flights ex-Stansted to Lyon.

Ann Graham

The interior of a Roulotte.

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Take your body for an MOT

The World Cup may have started, but many men prefer to sit and watch football and other sports rather than taking part. We speak to the experts about how physical activity can reduce the risk of some serious health problems, how much exercise men should be doing, and how to encourage them to do it.

Stop that expanding waist!

Millions of men will be glued to the TV watching the World Cup during the next month - but only a fraction will actually play the game themselves, or take any other form of exercise.

For, while men like watching sport, less than half of those aged over 35 do enough exercise to keep them healthy, say experts.

According to research, after the age of 35, men are increasingly likely to do less than the recommended level of exercise, which is at least 30 minutes of moderate activity, like brisk walking, five or more days a week.

Such physical activity can decrease the risk of certain cancers, heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes, as well as helping to improve mental health, reduce stress and anxiety, and even improve sexual performance.

Dr Ian Banks, the president of the Men's Health Forum in the UK is focusing on raising the heart rate of more than a million men aged between 35-64. He explains the problem is that, as men get older, their physical activity drops off dramatically.

"We're trying to get a million more men moving, as lack of activity is among the biggest issues for male life expectancy, probably greater than even smoking or alcohol. This is a call for action on action."

Just 40% of men over 35 do at least the minimum recommended amount of exercise, despite the fact that the benefits of physical activity are clear. Last year, a Swedish study found that middle-aged men who start exercising regularly can expect to live 2.3 years longer than males leading sedentary lives.

Couch potatoes, meanwhile, should bear in mind that World Health Organisation figures show more than 20% of coronary heart disease and 10% of strokes are due to physical inactivity.

Banks uses the "male-friendly" metaphor of a car left standing for a long time to explain what happens to the body if it's not exercised.

"You leave a car standing, it will seize up, simply because it's

Slumped on the sofa with the remote control.

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not been used.

"The human body has to be used too, otherwise it seizes up - it's as simple as that.

"It's designed for exercise, not for sitting watching the World Cup on a 42 inch screen."

Banks says most men cite pressure of work, stress, divorce and children as the reason for their lack of exercise.

But he points out easy ways of staying healthy which will slot into men's everyday lives.

These easy measures could include using stairs instead of the lift, getting off the bus one stop earlier and walking the rest of the way, or cleaning the car by hand rather than going to the car wash.

"If you walk briskly for just half an hour a day, it takes your level of activity out of the danger range," stresses Banks.

A study by researchers at the University of Otago in New Zealand found that people who simply can double their survival chances by moving out of the bottom 20% of fitness levels.

Interestingly, while this is also the case for women, the difference is that after the age of about 25 men's activity levels drop, while women's remain roughly the same. This fact is reflected in mortality rates: 22% of men in England and Wales die before they reach the age of 64, compared to just 13% of women.

"Men are dying early, and we're saying that this is a real problem, and here's a way of doing something about it," says Banks.

In a bid to get more men moving, events including 'MOT' checks for men and health improvement campaigns are being held around the UK, which are supported by a host of sporting personalities including the Former England test wicket-keeper Jack Russell, Harlequins rugby player Danny Orr, snooker favourite Jimmy White, and former Newcastle, Arsenal and England footballer Malcolm Macdonald.

"Health can all too often be taken for granted, particularly when you're young," Macdonald says.

"But checking your health out every now and again is vital to staying fit. You do it for your car, don't you? Then why not do it for the driver too?"

Professor Alan White, a professor of men's health at Leeds Metropolitan University, explains that modern man's lack of exercise is related to the fact that today's work is often office-based, instead of labour intensive.

After leaving school men often get sedentary jobs, without changing the eating or drinking habits of their youth.

"They're still eating for an active body, but they're inactive and therefore weight goes on," says White.

"Unless you organise something after work, you will become unfit and overweight.

"You have to do something about it - it doesn't just happen."

He suggests that Primary Care Trusts address the issue by organising physical activities for men in the evenings, and that employers become more proactive about how they keep their workforce healthy.

Part of the problem is also linked to the way men put on weight, says White, who explains that while women tend to put weight on gradually as they age, men put it on around their middle after the age of about 25.

This weight secretes fat-related toxins, which can increase the risk of problems including high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol and some cancers.

"Weight around the midriff is particularly problematic, and physical activity is linked to weight," stresses White.

He points out that as well as the obvious health benefits of physical activity, it can also improve mental health - sport is great for stimulating 'feel-good' hormones, as well as often being a very social activity.

"A lot of men think they're too old - that exercise is for younger men," he says, highlighting the fact that age can become a barrier to exercise.

White believes that society needs to get better at organising activities men want to do.

"Starting exercise, even at 50, 60, 70, has great health benefits."

He advises men to get out of old habits, and suggests: "Rethink the way you live your life so you'll be more active. You can add years to your life, as well as life to your years."

Lisa Salmon

A man in his senior years jogging to keep fit.

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Communication breakdown

It's long been said that men and women communicate differently, but a new study might just prove it. The modern man may moisturise, cry and be more in touch with his feelings than ever before, but when it comes to telephone conversations emotions go out of the window - he only tends to call if he wants something. So how can couples talk constructively? Experts give their view.

At first glance, Rupert was everything that Carol could ever hope for in a partner.

Tall, kind and considerate, Rupert got along great with her family, worked in the entertainment industry, was easy to talk to, and was fantastic in the kitchen.

"My first few boyfriends were so macho, they constantly proved their masculinity by walking out the door instead of discussing our relationship problems," explains the 28-year-old social worker.

"Rupert was the exact opposite. He was more metrosexual and in touch with his feelings."

But no matter how emotionally in tune Carol thought the couple were there was one problem: he hated talking on the phone.

"Considering how much he travelled for work, that turned out to be quite a big problem," she says.

And as soon as this communication crack appeared in their relationship, it began to shatter the seemingly perfect surface.

For Carol, staying in touch with Rupert while he was travelling was essential to maintaining a healthy relationship.

But no matter how much they emailed or texted, she found that they still grew apart emotionally, much to her frustration.

A new survey has revealed that, as anecdotal evidence would suggest, men and women treat phone calls very differently.

And for Carol and Rupert their differing communication habits spelled the end of their relationship.

According to a new survey by BT, men's "quality" phone calls consequently contain around three times as much functional content (50%) compared with women (17%), according to the research.

Women's calls, by contrast, include almost three times as much (28%) personal conversation compared with men (10%).

Six months, after their break up, Carol is still thinking about where she went wrong.

"It's not always the men who need help communicating, though," she says, wistfully. "I realise now I could have done a lot better myself."

So how can men and women communicate their love in the modern world?

:: Understanding him

Men, it seems, only phone when they want something.

According to the BT study, which analysed nearly 500 calls and investigated the phone habits of over 2,000 UK adults, this is because men and women disagree over what they consider a "quality" phone call. Men consider "quality" calls those which allow them to "get what they want", such as information about what time to meet for dinner.

Women, on the other hand, more frequently look to forge an emotional connection with the person on the other end of the line.

The reasons for this are varied, says relationship expert and psychologist Emma Kenny, as women's and men's brains work differently physiologically.

But a large part of why the sexes communicate differently has to do with how they process their emotions.

"Communication stems from emotional awareness, so if we're brought up to be more laterally logical and less emotional - like men are - then it will be harder for us to communicate in a way other than to convey information, such as what time we'll be home for dinner or whether the kids have been dropped off at school," she explains.

"This results in women expecting men to be as emotionally aware as they are themselves, and can lead to a woman thinking her man doesn't get her emotionally."

But this isn't necessarily the case, she adds.

Men are just as capable of deep emotional thought and feeling as women are - they're just not used to expressing it.

:: Communication conundrum

While these days we might feel like we're in constant communication all the time, really it's a misconception, says Kenny.

"These days people are communicating by texting and using facebook, but they're not doing it in an intimate way that allows them to be closer emotionally. It's an assumed contact rather than an actual contact."

We've become so used to communicating about the mundane events of everyday life - such as what time to meet at the pub or quick texts consisting of 'How r

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u', she says, that the times when we do really 'connect' with each other resonate strongly within us.

The trouble is just finding the time.

So how do you ensure that you have a meaningful conversation with your partner, either on the phone or in person?

Practice, says Kenny.

"While the research confirms that men and women communicate differently, the way they reflect on good communication is very similar," she explains.

"All those involved in the study, whether male or female, agree the best conversations occur when in comfortable surroundings, away from daily distractions and in a relaxed environment - usually sitting or lying down, and ideally with a cup of tea or glass of wine at hand."

:: Top tips on communicating

1. Assume nothing: Talking on the phone means you don't have any body language to pick up on. Instead of reading into things, be clear, concise and prepared to listen.

2. Save yourself: You'll have more quality conversations the more time and space you make for them. "Do you really need to talk to your mum 15 times a day?" says Kenny. "Try twice a week and see if the quality of the conversation improves."

3. Ritualise your time: The British Association for Sexual and Relationship Therapy (BASRT) suggests setting aside at least 30 minutes to discussing issues with your partner. Kenny agrees: "The best conversations are those that take place with space and time. So put the kids to bed, kick your feet up, have a cup of tea and give yourself time for a good chat."

4. Be clear: Successful communication involves saying what you feel and need, not asking your partner to be involved in a guessing game, says Kenny.

"Your partner isn't a mind reader. Say what you need out of the relationship. If, then, you don't get it, then at least you'll know you asked for it."

5. Know when to quit: Nothing will be resolved if the discussion goes awry. Schedule another time and spend some positive time together in the interim, advises BASRT.

6. Write it down: "If you've got gripes with your partner, say nothing, write it down and sit on it for a few days," advises Kenny. "Then, take a look at what you've written and only discuss the bits that still feel bad to you. Very often you realise that whatever was upsetting you wasn't your partner, but your bad day at work."

By Kate Hodal

Talking on the phone means you don't have any body language to pick up on.

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Treat yourself to a night in

Whether it's simply because money's a bit tight or you prefer the comforts of home, in cooking terms, staying in is definitely the new going out. In his new book How To Eat In, chef Adam Byatt, points home chefs in the right direction.

As George Osborne begins slashing the budget this month, so the rest of us will have to cut our costs. Indeed, at the end of last year, 40% of people were reportedly already cutting back on eating out. But any cook will tell you that enjoying great food is not simply about spending money.

There are plenty of ways to create a restaurant-style experience in your own home. According to chef and author of How To Eat In, Adam Byatt, all amateur chefs need to do is a little bit of planning.

"People are far more afraid to prepare things in advance than they should be," he says. At my restaurant, we'll make all of our food during the day. Because when customers come in and they order lamb, we can't start taking it off the bone!

"We act like the host of a dinner party - someone who should be ready to serve the guest when they arrive."

Wise words. But does Adam follow his own advice?

"If ever I have a dinner party, I will do everything and more to make sure I can just produce the food when my guests arrive," he states firmly.

"Even with a Sunday lunch I do everything to a point where I can make it happen in 10 minutes."

The secret to happy cooking, explains Adam, is enjoying the cooking, and enjoying the eating.

"People flap around, they're in a mess and suddenly the guests are dinging on the door. When I turn up to a house like that," he adds, "all I want to do is help them - but obviously that's the last thing they want!"

And when it comes to choosing what he cooks, Adam says his guests tend to get informal fare.

"I'll go for a roast chicken, or a barbecue," he says, pointing out that simple food, cooked well, is often the quickest route to success.

"For example, having a pot au feu for lunch - which is simply meat and vegetables - is easy, but it's the way you cook, look after and care for it that makes it wonderful.

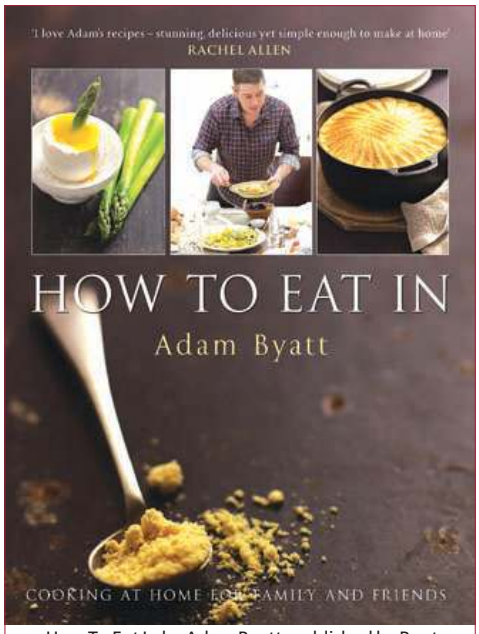
"Likewise, there's been a real upsurge in general appreciation of British food, and I'm very comfortable serving them in my restaurant," he adds. "The cottage pie in the book has been on my restaurant's menu for three years, and we don't take it off because people just go mad for it."

Adam suggests that, if you're making something simple, you use top quality ingredients.

"If I make shepherds pie, I might use shoulder of lamb or a different cut of beef. That will make a normal dish into something that's stunning."

Here is one of Adam's favourite recipes to try ...

Sarah O'Meara



How To Eat In by Adam Byatt, published by Bantam Press, priced £25/€30.

Black fig tart with mascarpone

Serves 8

500g puff pastry (preferably made with all butter)
12 slightly firm, black Italian figs
60g butter
30g icing sugar
200g mascarpone, to serve

Roll out the pastry on a floured surface until it is the size of an A4 sheet of paper and about 2mm thick. Place the pastry on a baking sheet and chill in the fridge for 20 minutes.

Slice the figs. Preheat the oven to 220C/Gas 8. Remove the pastry from the fridge and prick it all over with a fork - the holes should be about 1cm apart (this is called 'docking'). Now crimp the edges with your thumb and forefinger, and chill the pastry again in the fridge for 20 minutes.

Lay the figs over the pastry in lines, overlapping them slightly so that they completely cover the pastry. Leave the tart to rest in the fridge for 20 minutes.

Melt the butter and brush it generously over the figs, then sift over the icing sugar. Bake the tart for 30 minutes or until the edges are crisp.

Remove the tart from the oven and cool for about 10 minutes before cutting into squares and topping each square with a spoonful of mascarpone. Serve warm.

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Milo & Me

We've got a lodger staying with us for a few weeks; a very colourful, very noisy lodger who's moved in lock, stock and barrel and seems to have brainwashed the entire household. It's the World Cup!

And as happy as we are to have it - after waiting four years for it to come back - the noise levels in our house have shot up to unprecedented levels, thanks to the cheering and jeering, heated debates and a controversial vuvuzela thrown in for good measure.

However, one of the first arguments we had was actually deciding which team Milo should support. With a South African, a Portuguese and a Brit making up our family, Milo's loyalty became the subject of great scrutiny and vying. But I eventually headed for neutral ground and decided that, seeing as his breed apparently originated in Germany, that's who he should support. A decision as divisive as the vuvuzela itself.

The World Cup kicked off to a brilliant start - we took last Friday off to organise a Braai (South African barbecue) to pay homage to the tournament's host country and to celebrate its first game, fittingly, South Africa vs. Mexico.

Milo, of course, got very excited about the commotion; the visitors, the smells, the noise from the vuvuzela... We thought he was handling it beautifully and being really good until he fled off with a firelighter in his mouth. I mean, come on: if you're a dog and you're going to pinch something from a barbeque, why a firelighter and not a sausage? But that's Milo. I call him a lateral thinker. My fiancé calls him a whole load of other things.

After that things became more like a rugby match than a football celebration as three grown men tried to dive onto Milo, who was determinedly running for an imaginary try with the firelighter lodged between his teeth.

We eventually managed to grab the dog and the firelighter, neither of which had suffered any great damage for their ordeal.

A few days later we were watching something on Sky (thankfully we did not watch the notorious England x USA game on ITV HD - we actually saw the goal, ha ha), when we suddenly lost the signal. I presumed it was because we'd just had a really heavy downpour, but when the signal still hadn't come back the following day we started to worry. Maybe something had dropped from the house above and knocked the sensitive transmitter/receiver thingy out of place (blame the neighbours). Or maybe rain had seeped into the system and short-circuited the whole thing (blame the weather). Oh the thought of never seeing Eastenders again! What could have happened?

So, sensing my despair and turmoil, my loving better half decided to investigate.

And found that Milo had actually chewed right through the cable.

Needless to say, we didn't celebrate Germany's 4-0 win.

Carrie-Marie Bratley

A big thank you!

First of all I would like to Thank everyone and their dogs who turned out to support the Algarve Dog Show at the International Algarve Fair last 5th and 6th June. Hopefully you enjoyed your weekend of fun - We did! On the few occasions that I managed to escape the stand and watch, you all looked as if you were having fun. There was a fantastic turn out of dogs, all happy and in good condition.

Can I thank you all for your generosity in supporting our chosen charity and raising 345€ for Canil de São Francisco in Loulé. Companies were a little surprised that they were unable to donate money to sponsor classes this year, as this is the usual way that money can be raised for charity, however various clients came up with the idea of donating to the cause in spite of that. Yes the amount of money was less but we managed to turn a minus into a plus. We are still waiting for money to arrive. Please note that anyone who does want to donate to help rehome the animals please just visit our shop. So thank you to the individuals who made separate personal donations to the various charities, rehoming centres and sanctuaries on the day.

It is not only the financial donations which are important, but also the offer of new homes. Laura and Clare Browne would like to extend their thanks to all of the kind people who gave new homes to dogs over the weekend. These dogs and puppies had just been dumped on their doorstep and they have spent lots of time and money on caring for them. 12 were rehomed over the weekend - some were really cute and my sons nearly took one or two home with them!

There are a lot of people who I need to thank, and without whom the weekend would not have been so successful.

Paulo Coelho - Thank you for being our wonderful judge. Paulo can usually be found on the Championship dog show circuit - so we are indebted to him for giving up his weekend.

Rui Lima - from Clínica Veterinária de Vilamoura - thank you for being the show vet and giving up your weekend - even if you did eat the lollipops! Thank you also to Tamara and Monica for being there and Bruno for letting us borrow Rui, Tamara and Monica!

Laura and Clare Browne - thank you for all your help in setting up and organising the show and running the Agility Ring. Thank you also for our fantastic Podium and flowers.

Rachel - from Clínica Veterinária da Guia for managing the show for me - fantastic job - are you available for next year?

Anne Brown and Kathleen Browne - the main team on registration. A big thank you ladies especially as I dropped you right in it - feed back please - I´ll buy you lunch!

Keith Browne - definitely the best dressed! Thank you for controlling the collection ring and making sure that everyone knew where they needed to be.

Bill Browne - for manning the fun and games area and helping - and for sacrificing your golf!

David - from the Natural Dog Food Company for helping customers with free nutritional advice for their dogs.

Fiona - from Company of Animals for helping with all those training issues - I definitely learnt something!

Dad (the Fat Controller!!!) - thank you for manning the PA and running the main show ring. You did a fantastic job and kept at least me entertained!

Mum - for being there!! You push your health to the limit and the last couple of weeks have tested us all!!

Mel Woodman - for helping and judging the Big Sit and Best Recall and for letting Kate demonstrate dog handling.

Rodrigo and Maria Pinto - for a very informative talk on the Portuguese Water Dog

Nicola Tyrell - for helping on registration

Florist - for supplying a fantastic bouquet of flowers for us to present to our Big Heart winners.

The Portugal News - for putting their trust in us to pull it off and for all their help and support.

I would also like to say Thank you to the wine producers in the wine tent at the Algarve Fair - especially Adega Cooperativa de Lagoa, Moiras and Quinta dos Vales who kindly donated bottles of wine for us to present to our helpers, enabling more of the money raised to go to the charity.

I told you it was a long list!

Finally I would like to say a very big thank you to my very special and fantastic boys, Lewis (11) and Nicky (8 in 2 days). They spent their bank holiday packing up a shop, and then spent Friday evening and all weekend at the show. I am so proud of you both, you were so helpful and very good. I owe you a good day out - Promise! - Nicky's birthday is a big thank you to my boys day! Love you both!

Can you please pass on any feedback to us so that we can make next years Bigger and Better!

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The Bianca Association has many PUPPIES and KITTENS for adoption. All healthy, dewormed and vaccinated. Please visit our website:

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PAULA from Goldra walked around the Dog Show at the Fatacil last 5/6 June. She behaved very well and is so eager to be with people. She is inquisitive and friendly. Medium 3/4 years old. Spayed. Vaccinated. Microchipped. Tested neg. for leisch, heartworm. Call Laura 927 921 635 or Katy 919 100 160.

Many KITTENS are waiting for a nice loving home. They all look different (white, black, ginger, Siamese or tabby) and they are very sweet and friendly. All of them have been wormed & deflead and some are vaccinated. Call Valerie for a visit 913 860 865 or lili10.evann@yahoo.fr

Many PUPPIES are waiting for a nice loving home. They will be medium size adult dogs. They all look different and they are very sweet and friendly. All of them have been wormed, deflead and vaccinated. If you would like to adopt one or more puppies, please call Valerie for a visit 913 860 865 or lili10.evann@yahoo.fr

The last of the dogs at Goldra who still need homes

Since we were told the shelter is to close, over 70 dogs have been rehomed from the shelter.

Many of our rehoming efforts are now concentrated on sending dogs and puppies abroad. By the end of May, over:

- 73 puppies will have gone to new homes abroad.

- 11 dogs from outside of Goldra will have gone to new homes abroad.

- and almost 60 dogs from Goldra will have gone to new homes abroad.

But there are still 42 dogs at Goldra. 24 of these dogs would fit well into family life, the remaining dogs are noted on the Goldra website under special care as they will need extra time and effort to understand life outside of the shelter.

After Goldra closes, we will continue our rehoming efforts for Algarve dogs and puppies. We have a small team and are in the process of forming a charity to continue to rehome dogs both here and abroad. The purpose of our charity will solely be finding homes for rescued dogs and puppies. If you would like to help or if you would like to donate (or if you yourself need help finding a home for a rescued dog or puppy) please get in contact. Our team is myself, Katy Rexstrew, Clare Browne and Melanie Woodman.

But, we will not rehome any dog unless it is either spayed or neutered, and if we rehome a puppy in Portugal we will be asking for a donation that we will put towards a "voucher" for having the puppy sterilised once old enough. Additionally, for every dog and puppy we rehome we follow up on where it is, how it is, and request photos and updates. If you yourself individually rehome a dog or puppy, please consider the same policy.

As always, thank you for your attention to these messages, many people have been forwarding the messages and many people who may not otherwise have gotten in contact have adopted dogs. If you would like any further information about the shelter, about what is happening, about how we are rehoming dogs, or if you would like to know how you can help please get in contact. We will soon have our own website, linked to SOS Algarve animals, that lists rescued Algarve animals. And please do not forget, we always need foster homes and donations.

A list of doggies still needing homes is available just contact us.

And please, if you live in Portugal, pay special attention to Gemma, Bertie, and Yaya 2, these are wonderful loving dogs, who adore attention. They have tested positive for leish, a disease that is treatable but not curable. It is very unlikely they will find homes outside of Portugal where they are not that familiar with this disease.

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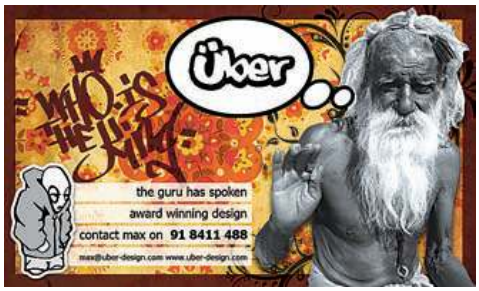

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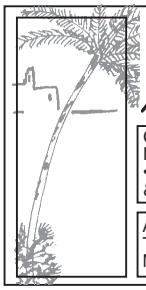

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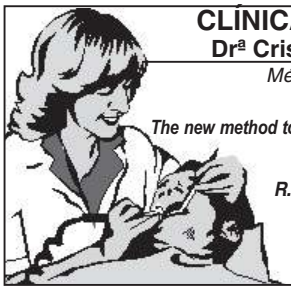

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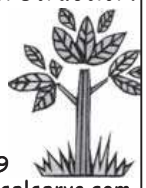

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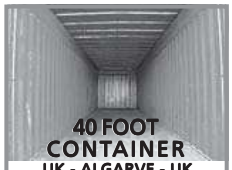

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BAPTIST MISSION - Esgueira (Aveiro) Traditional Baptist church service in English on Sunday at 5pm. Pastor David Loop Tel 965-363-986.

RIVERSIDE INT. CHURCH ABLA (next to Riviera Hotel), Praceta Infante D. Henrique, N° 80, Qta do Junqueiro, 2775-584 Carcavelos. Sunday at 10:30 in English

THE DOOR Christian Int. Church Cidade Desportiva, Praceta Carlos Capitulo, Loja "B" Massama / Queluz, Sunday 10:30am & 7:00pm. Pastor Frank Escobar at 21-467-3386 or Mobile 919 086 683

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, LISBON (Church of England). Rua S.Jorge. Enter through British Cemetery gate opp Jardim da Estrela. Service 11.45am Sunday. Tel. 21 4692303.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, ESTORIL (Church of England). Av. Bombeiros Voluntários 59 (behind Hotel Sana Estoril). Sunday School. Service 10.00 am every Sunday. Tel. 21.4692303.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (PRESBYTERIAN) Rua Arriaga, 13, Lisbon: Sun. 11.00. Minister's Tel: 214 837 885, www.standrewslisbon.com.sapo.pt

CASCAIS INT. CHRISTIAN CHURCH Av. de Sintra, N° 1154, Cascais (Tel: 21 486 1856). Sunday English worship 10.30. ANursery provided, children's church programme.

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LISBON SYNAGOGUE: Rua Alexandre Herculano 59, Tel 213 931 130 Fax 213 884 304, celesboa@mail.telepac.pt

IGREJA BAPTISTA de Queijas (close to Cascais) R. Carlos Santos 8B, Queijas Near Olympic Stadium off A5. Tel: 214 172 087. Sunday Service: English 10:15 Prayer & Bible Study:Thursday 8pm

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. R. João de Deus, 76. Sintra. (Behind train station). Sunday 1.30pm. Tel: 214 690 600. Also R. da Barroca, 122 (Bairro Alto), Lisbon. Sunday 11am. Tel: 213 421 604. (Chinese: Saturday 3pm).

The Algarve

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH, ALGARVE Holy Communion every Sunday. **Almancil** 10.30am with Adventurers at Almancil Community Centre (ASCA). **Lagoa** 6pm at Lagoa Convent Chapel. www.allsaintsalgarve.org or 282 380 311.

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THE SALVATION ARMY in São Bras de Alportel 1st Sunday of each month Int. Worship Service at the Salvation Army Citadel in São Bras at 5pm, Rua 25 de Abril, n° 19 (next to the Market).

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LAGOA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, English speaking Calvary chapel of the Algarve. Sunday services: English 11am EN 125 Porches Retail Park, Vale de Lousas, Alcantarilha. Tel: 282 381 347 Pastor Gary O'Connor. www.lagoa fellowship.org

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RIVERSIDE PORTO INT. CHURCH. Meetings 6pm Sundays at 1642 Av. Sacadura Cabral, Aguda, VNG, between Aguda railway station & Miramar golf course. Call Tina or Bill on 227 627 643 contact@riversideporto.com, www.riversideporto.com

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THE SALVATION ARMY OPORTO Pereiro Corps (Av. Vasco da Gama No: 675-2 E Ramalde), Service 10am, Salvation Meeting 5.00pm. Coloras Corps. (Av. dos Bombeiros Voluntá-rios; Tel: 22 929 1077) Sun. 10am. Thurs 4.00pm Ladies Home League Meeting.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. Praça Don Afonso V, 168. Sunday 10.30am. Tel: 226 160 976.
Caldas da Rainha

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JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. Rua Adelino Amaro da Costa, next to CERCIP. 2520 Peniche,Óbidos. Sunday 11am (1st & 2nd Sunday of the month).

National squad 'blue' after draw

Danny and Portugal's twelve substitutes returned to practice on Wednesday, after their dull 0-0 draw with Ivory Coast, looking slightly glum.

The Portugal substitutes, and Danny, returned to practice in Magaliesberg after their team's goalless draw against Ivory Coast on Tuesday, the main squad recovering from the match with gym training at their hotel.

After being in training camp for several weeks, Portugal were saving all their energies and focus for their opening match against Ivory Coast.

Their failure to win the match had visible repercussions on the substitute players, who were not cheerful at all during their post match training, which consisted of a friendly match against the 'Wits', a university team from Johannesburg.

The lack of goals in the friendly seemed to unnerve the Portuguese substitutes, unable to hide their frustration when things didn't go their way.

Nevertheless, over 2,000 Portugal fans dressed in red and green showed up to cheer on the team during their practice session.

A Portugal fan supports his team during the FIFA World Cup 2010 Group G preliminary round match between Portugal and Ivory Coast at the Nelson Mandela Bay stadium in Port Elizabeth on June 15th. (Photo: Lusa / Estela Silva)

Journalist robbers get fifteen years

The three suspects accused of robbing two Portuguese and one Spanish journalists in Magaliesburg, South Africa, were handed sentences less than two days after carrying out the robbery, with one of the assailants being sent to four years behind bars and the other two fifteen years.

Bright Madzidzi, 20, and George Magubane, 28, were sentenced to fifteen years each for armed robbery, with their accomplice, Ndubuisi Odungwa, the getaway driver, receiving a four year sentence for accepting stolen material, said Sally de Beer, South Africa's national police spokeswoman.

The two assailants were found guilty of robbing Portuguese journalists António Simões, of Global Imagens, Rui Gustavo, of Expresso, and Spanish journalist Miguel Serrano, of Marca, at gunpoint in Magaliesburg, near Johannesburg, where all three journalists were following the Portuguese national squad.

Carlos Godinho, the Portuguese Football Federation's technical director, expressed his opinion on his blog todossomosportugal.blogspot.com: "The hotel where the robbery took place was not on the list of recommended hotels, but the Portuguese journalists took the risk nevertheless. The result was what was seen."

Some of the stolen items, as well as cash, passports and cameras, were recovered by the South African authorities following the arrest of the criminals.

"The police arrested the assailants in less than 24 hours. Justice convicted them in less than 48 hours. We are doing what we promised: to act fast against criminals" said Police Minister Nathi Mhetwa, speaking of the Special Courts created to handle World Cup related cases.

All three journalists were resting in their rooms at the Nutbush housing complex when they were surprised by the assailants, in the early hours of Wednesday morning, 9th June; days before the World Cup began.

António Simões was the only journalist to be robbed at gunpoint as the other two were fast asleep when their rooms were looted.

Ronaldo not supportive of 'vuvuzelas'

Cristiano Ronaldo has said he has become accustomed to the 'Jabulani', the 2010 World Cup official football, but has admitted the same will not be happening with the 'vuvuzela', the South African blowing horn.

The 'vuvuzela' fever in South Africa has caused great distress to many players competing in the World Cup, claiming it affects their focus during the match, as well as broadcasters and fans, with the constant buzzing resembling a swarm of flies. The noise emitted by the traditional South African blowing horn is louder than a set of drums and even the referee's whistle, with the banning of the horn having been discussed among officials, but to no avail.

Cristiano Ronaldo has joined the majority of players who think these devices are a nuisance, saying "It is difficult for those on the field trying to concentrate. Lots of players don't like them" although he admitted "it's a part of the competition, we have to get used to it."

Many players have also complained of the 'Jabulani', the World Cup's official football, claiming it is too light and has an erratic flight pattern.

The Portuguese team has been having specific ball handling trainings in order to get used to the unusual football, according to Cristiano Ronaldo, who said "When it comes to the ball, we have to adapt to it. I am much more accustomed to it than I was two weeks ago. I don't think it's going to be a problem", adding "I have the feeling that things are going to come out alright, the dribbling, the free kicks and corners."

A Chile supporter blows the Vuvuzela before the FIFA World Cup 2010 Group H preliminary round match between Honduras and Chile at the Mbombela stadium in Nelspruit, on June 16th. (Photo: EPA/Ahmad Yusni)

Le Mans Series returns to Portimão

The 1000 kilometres of the Algarve Le Mans Series will be returning to the Algarve MotorPark for the second year running on July 16th and 17th, to take place during the night once again.

After a successful first year, the Le Mans Series will once again take place at the world-renowned Portimão racetrack, with the 24 hour racing cars participating in a 1,000km race. Jean Alesi, Giancarlo Fisichella, Nigel Mansell and Olivier Panis are just some of the distinguished drivers that will be participating in the event, expected to begin at 5pm on July 17th at the Algarve MotorPark. Drivers will be competing in a varied mix of prestigious vehicles, such as an AudiR15, Peugeot 908 HDI FAP, Aston Martin, Zytek, Pescarolo, Ferrari and others.

Tickets are already available for purchase on the racetrack's website www.autodromo internacionaldo algarve.com or at the track's shop, with tickets costing from €10, depending on the seating area chosen.

Portugal coach Queiroz lashes out at FIFA, Deco lashes out at Queiroz and then repents

In the wake of Portugal's scoreless draw with the Ivory Coast in Group G of the World Cup, manager Carlos Queiroz criticised FIFA for "changing the rules halfway" by allowing Ivorian star Didier Drogba to play with a special cast for his arm.

Also after the match, Portugal midfielder Deco attacked Queiroz's tactics and complained about his substitution, but on Wednesday he recanted, saying he "never intended to question the manager".

In a tense and tight game Tuesday, Portugal and the Ivory Coast could not get any goals. Queiroz described the scoreline as "fair", but complained that FIFA had not been consistent.

"The rules were changed halfway. It's not allowed to wave a band-aid on your arm, you can't have a necklace, and all of a sudden we get an African soccer star wearing a cast", Queiroz said, complaining that the Portugal squad was "not consulted at all" on the matter.

Further controversy arose from statements by midfielder Deco, who claimed Portugal's "long ball" tactics were "not the best idea" and "the team's approach to the second half was not right" in the post-game interviews.

Deco also said he was "feeling fine" before being replaced in the second half, and further chastised the head coach: "First he told me to play on the right wing, which I have never done in my career, then he takes me out of the game."

In a statement posted on the Portuguese Football Federation's website, Deco backtracked on his words: "I don't have and never had any problem with the manager and I never intended to question his leadership or decisions."

"We must focus now on our next two games", Deco added.

TPN/Lusa

Portugal fails to impress

Tommy Broad

Portugal's inaugural match of the World Cup against Ivory Coast has dampened the country's spirits, not only for the goalless draw but also for the lack of creativity and desire demonstrated by the national squad.

The opening match in Port Elizabeth was an eagerly anticipated encounter, with many seeing it as one of the most important matches of the group that might have defined who took second place in the 'Death Group', as Brazil are big favourites to take the first slot.

Despite an energetic start, with a fantastic long-range strike from Cristiano Ronaldo smashing the post in the first ten minutes, Portugal were not able to trouble Ivory Coast throughout the remainder of the first half, with only two shots being made, one on target.

A huge lack of creativity kept the game stuck in midfield, where Ivory Coast seemed to have a slight advantage in the first half, thanks to Sven Goran Eriksson's clinical defence system, and the players' physical presence, which kept Portugal at bay.

The national squad's inability to exchange the ball with fluidity and keep it in the opposing side's half dragged into the second half, with no Portuguese player wanting to take the responsibility for creating any sort of daring play; many times opting to pass the ball back to the defenders instead of making any runs down the wing to open up the game.

Queiroz's option to replace Danny and Deco for Simão and Tiago in the second half did tip the scales slightly towards Portugal's side, but the dreary midfield match progressed through most of the game nevertheless and it ended 0-0.

Ivory Coast must be praised for their strong defence but Portugal can also be blamed for lack of ambition to take the lead.

Just like many of the first matches in the World Cup, a dreary draw has left the second spot of the group for the taking.

Ronaldo was once again not on top form for his country, despite being nominated 'Man of the Match', and lost his temper after being taken down repeatedly by the opposition, earning him a yellow card midway through the first half.

Something must be done if Portugal are to progress to the final sixteen, especially after North Korea's match against Brazil, where the massive underdogs kept a clean sheet in the first half and held a tight knit match against the six time world champions in the second, losing 2-1 in the end but standing their ground firmly.

Portugal must find their form and beat North Korea by some goals this Monday, as the team that progresses might just be chosen by goal difference.

Portugal's Miguel Veloso (R) fights for the ball during a training session in Magaliesburg on June 16th. (Photo: Lusa / Estela Silva)

Figo to sue Chinese newspaper

Portuguese footballer Luís Figo has confirmed that he will be sueing Chinese newspaper Ti Tan for printing quotes falsely attributed to him, regarding Portugal's performance in the world cup. In its piece Ti Tan claims Figo had said he was "very disappointed" with his nation's opening match against Ivory Coast, which ended with a goalless draw.

"If Portugal plays like that against Brazil they are unlikely to win any points" Luís Figo allegedly told Ti Tan. He was also said to have criticised the players and not the coach for the lacklustre performance, allegedly describing the team as having a weak attack and midfield.

However, the sports star has slammed the newspaper via the Portuguese Football Federation's official website. In a statement published on the website he publicly refuted ever having made such comments, spoken or written, to the Chinese newspaper.

"I categorically deny ever having spoken or written to any members of the Chinese media and I equally deny that I have a negative appreciation of Portugal's performance in their game against the Ivory Coast", Figo said.

"I continue to believe and trust in the national team, its technical crew and the work they have developed. We will, surely, achieve out first objective in this World Cup, which is to qualify for the last 16", he added.

Further confirmation of Figo's intention to sue Ti Tan was given by his official representative, Miguel Macedo.

Mr. Macedo said "Luís Figo is going to judicially sue the Chinese newspaper for the false statements it published", adding "Luís Figo was greatly bothered by the matter, as he never made any statements to any newspaper, Chinese or otherwise".

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